

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.



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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE]

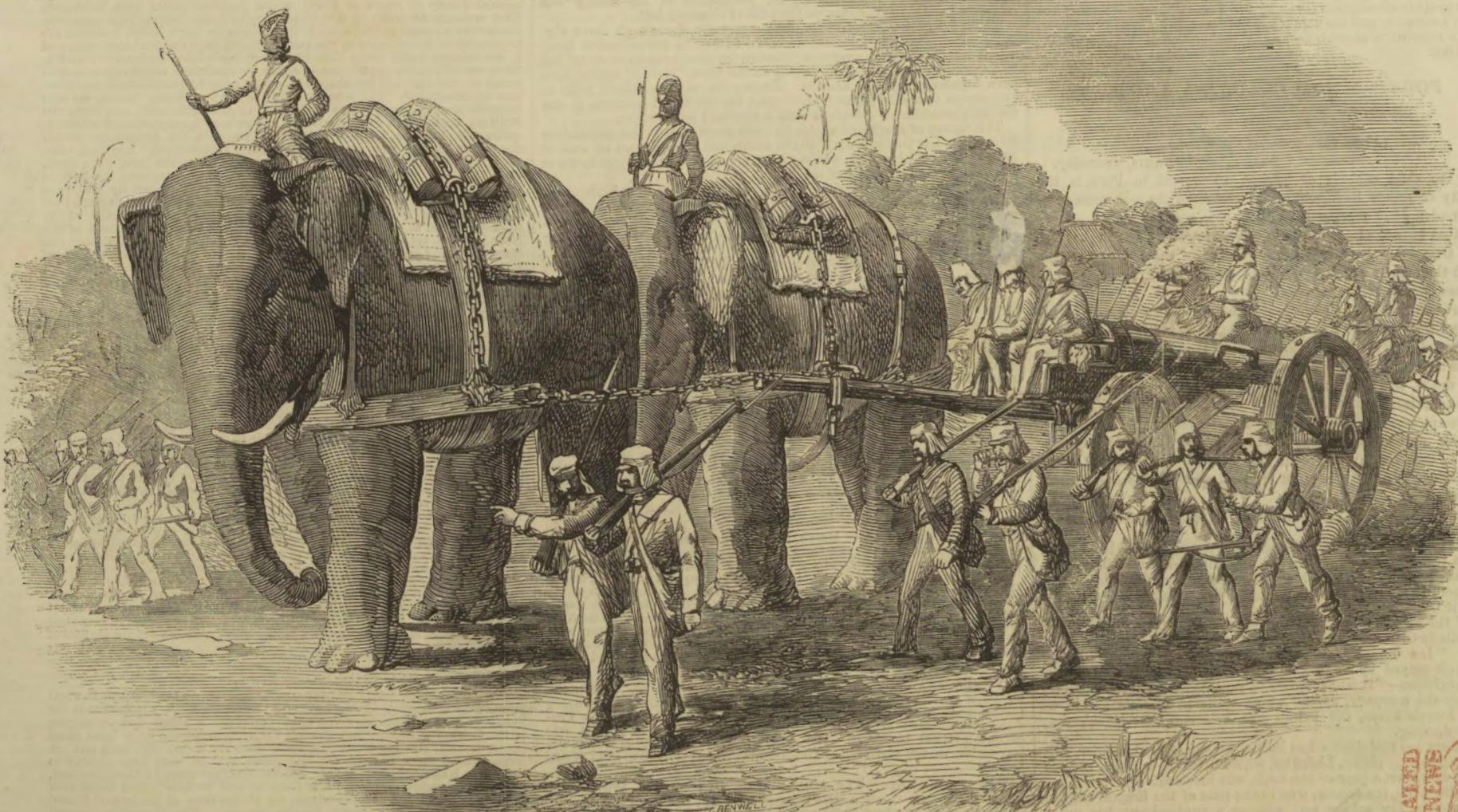
## FINANCIAL PROSPECTS.

ALTHOUGH the Budget of the Government is slipping with favourable gales through the sometimes dangerous straits of the stages of a bill in the House of Commons, and though its immediate provisions have been practically unquestioned, yet occasion was taken on Monday evening, on one of the stages, to initiate a very interesting and very instructive debate touching things financial. An ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer, and especially one whose exodus from office is almost coeval with the termination of the financial year, who may be supposed to have had his Budget almost ready, and who is keenly watching to detect any symptoms of the rising of his own pigeon-holes in the plan of his successor, is naturally and legitimately a critic of the arrangements for the coming year. An address of a formal and elaborate description from Sir Cornewall Lewis on the Budget was, of course, no more than was to be expected, and was simply the exercise of an acknowledged right. This would have been admitted, even if he had confined himself to mere manipulation of the figures of the Chancellor of the Exchequer; but his speech had the additional merit of having started a discussion on principles of taxation and expenditure which ought to bear fruit. It is time that the country should seriously set about to settle what is to be our financial future. At the present moment we are in a very unsatisfactory condition. We are going on under a mixed system of finance, the two principles of which alternately prevail according to the exigencies of the moment; and, with a national improvidence which cannot be too strongly condemned, we live, as regards the public receipt and expenditure, in a most veritable hand-to-mouth fashion, congratulating, with factitious energy, every successive Minister of Finance who can just make things smooth for a single

year. It is not very easy to describe the position of the national accounts, the sources from which our revenue is derived, and what we are likely to have to pay. Something like a glimmering of the state of things seems to come upon one in a shape, if shape it can be called, such as follows. We have a vast and increasing expenditure,—an expenditure which is subtle and silent, permeating into obscure items, and extending itself into new ones, year after year, rather than a bold-faced creation of novel demands for public money. Indeed, there is a sort of virtuous-indignation style of cutting off a few thousands from the larger estimates, so that the balance-sheet may show a diminution in a comparison of one year with another; but in other and minor and newer departments of expenditure there will be found a growth, slow and almost imperceptible, but which, in the aggregate, makes up a sum that accounts fully for the yearly addition to the millions which it is the business of somebody to meet by revenue, but which nowadays takes the obnoxious form of a deficit. Consequently with the growing expenditure we have a national and a Parliamentary demand for a reduction of taxation. Then we profess to be acting on the broad principle of lowering duties on articles of consumption, while at the same time it is distinctly stated that the Income-tax ought to cease and must determine within a given period. A very curious problem, indeed, we are trying to solve, pretty much like that of the man who tried to teach his horse to live on a straw a day, and who would have succeeded in his experiment but for the death of the animal from inanition.

What can be the result of a system which is subjected to the operation of three processes? How can we go on adding to expenditure, and at the same diminishing indirect taxation and abolishing the main source of direct taxation? The fallacy probably lies

in the attempt to make large taxation easy to bear; but it is much to be doubted if that end can be effected by mixing up a financial hodgepodge, and throwing it in indiscriminate handfuls to be scrambled for by the people. There was a time, and not so long ago, when the confusion that reigned in our finances was reduced to order and regularity, by the adoption of a principle which resulted in the increasing of the national revenue, while it decreased the national burdens. Until the period of the war with Russia, that principle was uniformly acted upon, and, in the least skilful hands, always produced the same effect. There was no hunting in remote or ideal regions for the means of creating a surplus, and a deficiency was a thing of the past. But what is the case now? Annual deficiencies, additions to debt, impracticable sinking funds, and the renewing of floating obligations which the ordinary revenue is unable to supply. It is not the late war, neither is it the disturbances in India, nor the war with China, nor the state of Europe, nor the influence of a misguided foreign policy—all which are made the scapegoats of the present system—which can be justly made liable for the existence of that system. It would rather seem to be the want of adherence to a principle which so readjusted taxation that revenue increased, while remission of duties on articles of consumption was going on; and that principle is the payment of the main necessities of the State from property—in short, by that which we very imperfectly and inadequately designate the Income-tax. No doubt that when that tax was first imposed it was in its nature temporary, and was to act only as a means of enabling the beneficial remission of other duties; but it has been found to work well as a whole (into the question of inequality it is not necessary to enter here), and, in proportion as the principle of which it was the foundation has been departed from, so have our



ELEPHANT BATTERY ON THE MARCH.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



financial difficulties arisen, and the inequality between revenue and expenditure, which we fondly hoped some ten years had departed for ever, has revived and asserted itself more largely year by year.

To a plain man it seems to be clear that there is no middle element of revenue which remains untouched between direct and indirect taxation. You may work by means of either, or by a mixture of both; but when professed financiers tell us that you must not halt in the path of the remission of indirect taxation, but at the same time you must abolish the Income-tax, it is really necessary to inquire what source of revenue is to be left. Apart from the Income-tax, the production of direct taxation in all its branches does not amount to more than £10,000,000—a very small modicum, indeed, of our £70,000,000 of annual expenditure. The rest must be supplied from indirect taxation; and so we shall return, as indeed we have returned, to the days of large Customs and Excise duties, with all their variableness and all their pressure on the consumer; while the property of the country, which has increased and is increasing in an enormous degree, is left comparatively free to compete in the markets of articles of consumption with the poor worker and doer, who hardly knows from week to week where he shall find the means of procuring high-taxed necessities.

As was well put in the recent debate, what is the history of the Paper-duty? who ventures to make a motion for the reduction of the duty on wines? is any one bold enough to face a Chancellor of the Exchequer with even a question with regard to the duties on insurances? The whole of the process of the remission of taxation has been entirely arrested; and more than that, as was observed by Mr. Gladstone, not only have the changes in our commercial system—which were coincident with the imposition of the Income-tax, and which were intended for the benefit of the consumer and the great body of the people—ceased to be carried on, but we have absolutely begun to travel in the opposite direction; and, as a striking instance, the addition of £2,000,000 of duties on tea and sugar in the last two years was mentioned. In fact, our financial system is in that half-and-half state—it is so void of cohesion, unity, and consistency—that it tempts the hand of every dabbler in the pounds, shillings, and pence of the public to pick holes in it, now on one side and now on the other, according to the predilections of the person engaged in the operation; and it needs no wonderful amount of vaticination to enable one to predict that a very few years will bring the necessity for a remedy to a climax; and it is only to be hoped that it will not be too late before that remedy can be found. What that remedy might be is not so much an abstract and unformed idea as may be supposed; and we may possibly, ere long, bring the consideration of that question to the attention of the public.

#### ELEPHANT BATTERY.

THE ordnance and stores in Indian armies are usually drawn by bullocks, but the guns of large calibre have a pair of elephants harnessed to each, tandemwise, as shown in the illustration, which represents a gun of the elephant battery on the march.

In our earlier Indian wars it was deemed impracticable to use elephants for regular draught, for, although wonderfully sagacious and teachable, this animal seems to entertain certain prejudices which in some instances he defends with as much obstinacy as if he were a Hindoo or a Mussulman. The elephant was then used for carrying the larger tents and other camp equipage, and in assisting the guns in very sandy, miry, steep or difficult places. This task was accomplished by the application of the proboscis to some portion of the gun or its carriage, pushing or pulling it forward with perfect ease. A writer of that day remarks, "The sagacity of these animals is wonderful, their tractability no less so. They follow the first gun, relieve the weight from the bullocks, fall to one side, then repeat their assistance to the second, and so on; they will even occasionally chastise the bullocks with their trunks when they do not pull kindly." Their assistance was found of so much value on these occasions that it naturally suggested the idea of using their immense strength in a more regular way, for the transit of ordnance. An attempt was accordingly made some twenty years ago to harness and break in the elephant for drawing large guns, the experiment was attended with complete success, and since then elephant batteries were formed, and have been extensively employed in our many important military expeditions.

In the graphic description given by the *Times* correspondent of the march to Lucknow, and the capture of that city, the elephant guns are especially referred to as contributing to the success of that important undertaking.

#### FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

##### FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

ONE of the chief subjects of interest at present in Paris is the probability of Prince Napoleon being named to the government of Algeria, under what precise denomination is not yet stated. Some imagine that he will obtain the title of Viceroy, but we deem that the other, of Grand Lieutenant de l'Empereur, is, of the two, that which has much the greater chance of being adopted. The Prince is, at present, somewhat severely indisposed.

Paris is in expectation of the opening of the conferences. Several of the members have already arrived, while, on the other hand, M. de Hubner has started for Vienna, probably to receive more precise instructions on the course he is to pursue from his own Government. This, no doubt, will further prolong the Paris season.

The Court proposes proceeding to Fontainebleau towards the end of the present month. The Emperor intends remaining there for a considerable part of the summer, and has caused important improvements to be executed in and about the château. The Grand Duke of Wurtemberg and the Queen of Holland will be the first guests received there.

The book of Proudhon has been seized, in consequence of the representations of the clergy.

The *Estafette* has been suppressed wholly, and orders have been issued to prevent the admission of the *Indépendance Belge* into France for the space of a month. No motive is stated for this prohibition, nor does any one seem to have the slightest idea on what grounds it is founded.

One of the most brilliant fêtes of the *arrière-saison* has been that of M. Emile de Girardin. The entertainment commenced with an opéra comique, "Les Travestissemens;" then succeeded a little piece, written and played by Augustine Brohan, sparkling with verve, wit, and sprightliness—"Il faut toujours en venir là!"—marriage, to wit; and finally the company, among whom appeared the Comtesse Montijo, the Duc de Ribas, the Prince and Princesse Czartoryski, &c., ended by dancing.

Journalism has sustained a loss in the person of M. Lhéritier, editor of the *Paris*. Mdlle. Lhéritier, whose début as a singer created so great a sensation a year or two back, was his daughter.

Mdlle. Bigottini, the dancer, who in the time of the Empire reigned pre-eminent in her sphere, and who, as a pantomimist, has never perhaps been equalled, has just died, at the age of seventy-five.

The state of General Bosquet's health continues to cause much uneasiness.

The Empress Eugenie on Tuesday completed her thirty-second year. A solemn service was performed on Wednesday in the chapel of the Tuilleries in commemoration of the anniversary of the death of Napoleon I. There was, likewise, the usual procession of old soldiers of the Empire from the Invalides to the column in the Place Vendôme.

The visit of the Emperor to Cherbourg, for the threefold solemnity of letting the water into the new dock, the inauguration of the statue of Napoleon I, and the opening of the railway to that important port, is stated by the local journals to be fixed for the 23rd July.

M. Bonaparte, the eldest son of Marshal Prince Jerome by his marriage with Miss Paterson, has been staying in Paris for some time almost incog.

M. Lightennell, the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the King of the Netherlands, was received on Sunday at a private audience by the Emperor, and placed in his hands a joint letter from the King of the Netherlands and the Duke of Nassau, addressed to his Imperial Majesty, together with the insignia of the order of the Golden Lion of the Nassau House, which the King of the Netherlands and the Duke of Nassau have just founded.

The debate on the Budget in the Legislative Body was brought to a close on Friday (last week), the Budget being adopted by 256 votes against 3.

The sale at the British Embassy in Paris in behalf of the Relief Fund has produced 20,000 francs.

The Poles assembled on Monday at the Polish Library to commemorate the anniversary of the Revolution of May 3, 1791. Prince Adam Czartoryski, who presided, made an interesting speech, in which he explained the history of the emancipation of the serfs in Poland.

The management of the Italian Opera is in treaty with Tamberlik for an engagement of three years at a salary of £8000 the season.

##### PORUGAL.

It is affirmed that a marriage is finally arranged between the Infanta Donna Maria Anna with Prince George of Saxony. It is also said that a marriage is projected between the Infanta Donna Antonia with the Count of Flanders. The Count is expected to take part in the coming marriage festivities.

##### PRUSSIA.

The marriage by proxy of the King of Portugal to the Princess Stephanie took place at Berlin on Thursday, in presence of the Prince of Prussia and a Royal party. The bride was accompanied by her parents, the Princess and Prince Carl Anton of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen. The marriage dress consisted of Brussels lace, with three bouquets of remarkably fine English lace. Each of the bouquets was trimmed with crowns, composed of blossoming orange branches and myrtles. The waist and sleeves were ornamented in a similar manner. The train consisted of heavy twilled silk, covered also with costly laces, and adorned with orange and myrtle flowers. The bridal veil was fixed on the forehead by a wreath of blossoming orange, while the head was graced with the crown fashioned out of fresh myrtle branches. On her breast was the bridal bouquet, along with a portrait in diamonds of her Royal husband. The Princess of Prussia wore a white dress, worked with gold, and her train was of red velvet. Princess Frederick William appeared in a pink moiré antique robe and train, with silver embroidery.

[A Portrait of her Majesty the Queen of Portugal, and an Engraving of the Marriage Ceremony, will appear in this Journal next week.]

##### UNITED STATES.

In the Senate Mr. Houston had presented and strongly advocated a resolution for extending a protectorate over Mexico.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs had instructed their chairman to report to the President the resolution for immediate abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty in regard to Central America.

The Kansas Conference was holding meetings, but had not agreed upon any report.

The United States' Senate had adopted a resolution directing inquiry as to an epidemic on board the *Susquehanna*, with the view of suitably acknowledging the courtesies of the British naval authorities at Port Royal, Jamaica.

Both Houses of Congress have agreed to finally adjourn on the 7th June. A resolution was offered that Congress reassemble on the 1st of November, but it was laid over.

The *New York Herald* of the 16th says:—"A gentleman who arrived in that city yesterday direct from New Orleans, via the Mississippi River and Memphis, gave a deplorable account of the destruction of property by the flood. He stated the river had, with few exceptions, covered the country on both sides of it from the mouth of Lake Providence to Memphis, a distance of 700 miles. People were in the upper stories of their houses, the lower rooms being filled with water.

##### AUSTRALASIA.

There has been a change of Ministry at Melbourne. What was left of the Haines Cabinet resigned on the 23rd of February. On the 2nd of March Mr. Chapman was sent for. The new Ministry consists of O'Shanassy, Chief Secretary; Chapman, Attorney-General; Harker, Treasurer; Miller, Trade; Duffy, Land and Works; Ireland, Solicitor-General; Evans, Postmaster-General. Trade has greatly improved in Victoria, and the yield of the gold-fields had also improved.

Owing to the elections not having been concluded, the meeting of the New South Wales Parliament was prorogued to the 2nd of March. The seventieth anniversary of the foundation of the colony was celebrated with full honours on the 26th of January last.

The crops of South Australia, and especially the wheat, have significantly failed, owing to the great droughts caused by the excessive heat, which on this as on a previous occasion (so the newspaper state) has had the effect of roasting the apples on the trees. Several deaths have been occasioned by *coup de soleil*. Among the various passed bills to be referred to the Imperial Government for the Royal sanction is one for the promotion of marriage with a deceased wife's sister.

The census of Auckland shows an increase of 3599 to the population during the last two years; of 40,000 additional acres fenced in, and of 36,000 under cultivation; whilst the increase of cattle is put down at 4400, of horses at 900, and of sheep at 14,650.

Great floods, attended with serious loss both of life and property, have occurred on the River Hutt, in the province of Wellington; and a renewal of the war between the followers of Moananui and Hapuka has broken out with fresh violence, in consequence of the latter persisting in selling land to the Government.

The returns for the Canterbury province, in 1857, state the number of sheep as 276,089; cattle, 15,355; and horses, 1307. The quantity of land in grain crops was as follows:—Wheat, 4000 acres; oats, 900; barley, 350. Great complaints were being made of the scarcity of labour, which consequently commanded high prices.

NEW GRANADA is deliberating on the advisability of seeking annexation with the United States. The Attorney-General reports in favour of that step very strongly.

MEXICO is in a state of anarchy. Several parties are striving for power. Vera Cruz still holds out for Comonfort. Tampico pronounces for Santa Anna and the Church, and is blockaded by General Gargos. He has possession of the bar in the harbour, and is levying port dues. He forcibly removed some officers of a different faction from an American schooner, the master of which protested against his conduct. He also captured about a dozen of Santa Anna's Generals on board the British mail-packets, and took all their money and papers.

GREAT BATTLE IN PERU.—A battle, said to be one of the most sanguinary ever fought in South America, took place at Arequipa, in Peru, on the 7th and 8th of March, when Vivanco was defeated, and compelled to retire to Bolivia, and Castilla became master of the country. The following letters on the subject are from the *Panama Star and Herald*:—

"Arica, March 21.—Castilla has at last taken Arequipa by storm, on the 7th instant; not, however, without a severe loss. The narration of the battle is terrific; an eyewitness states that the blood ran down the barricades in streams six hours after the fight; that the 'Bataillon de Ayacucho' defending the barricades, and said to be six hundred strong, were all killed with the exception of forty. Vivanco, with a few friends, has retired to Bolivia. The loss on both sides is over two thousand killed, and the city is filled with the wounded."

VENEZUELA.—By the latest news from Maracaibo, Venezuela, we learn that the opponents of Monagas have overthrown the existing Government at that place, and proclaimed ex-Governor Serrano Provisional President of the Liberating Assembly. The revolution was effected without bloodshed. The general sentiment of the province was favourable to the elevation of General Paez as the executive head of the Republic.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The seal fishery is likely to prove very successful, twenty-three vessels having arrived at St. John's having an aggregate catch of about 89,000 seals. One vessel had a fare of 8400 seals. The news from the ice is conflicting. There had been several arrivals of sealers at Conception Bay, all well fished. A very destructive fire had occurred at Harbour Grace, commencing in Toussaint's Hotel, when fifty houses were consumed.

#### THE MUTINY IN INDIA.

The greater portion of our last week's impression contained the Government telegram received on Friday morning giving the heads of the information contained in the Bombay mail, then on its way to this country. We have since received by the Overland Mail advices and papers from Bombay to April 9; Madras, April 6; and Calcutta, March 31.

We take the following summary from the *Bombay Standard* of April 9:—

##### BOMBARDMENT AND CAPTURE OF JHANSI.

With the capture of Lucknow the curtain drops on the grandest scene of the bloody drama in Oude, and our interest for the present is transferred to Central India and Rajpootana. At the date of our last (March 24) the Second Brigade, under Sir Hugh Rose, having forced the mountain passes north-east of Saugor, was pushing on through Bundelcund towards Jhansi, reducing and clearing the country as he went. The First Brigade continued before Chunderee, the fact of the capture of which on the 17th had reached us by telegraph without giving details. [The Standard proceeds with the recital of these, which, with a description of the place, also given, we omit.] On the 20th March an order was received from Sir Hugh Rose to have a portion of the 14th Dragoons dispatched immediately to join him at Jhansi. They left, accordingly, under Major Gall, and performing a march of seventy miles in thirty-six hours, joined on the 22nd. On the 25th the remainder of Stuart's force closed up from Chunderee just as Jhansi was being invested. The rebels were found to have abandoned their advanced position, and to have shut themselves up within the town and fort, the walls of the latter having been strengthened. The army had arrived on the 21st, and encamped near the town, after a very careful reconnoitring, during which a heavy fire was kept up by the enemy. Our first mortar was got into position on the 23rd; the principal part of the train had not yet arrived. On the 25th, two 24-pounders began to play, and other guns were got into position in succession. The arrival of the 14th Dragoons took the enemy by surprise, and the villagers making their way into the town were cut up. On the left front line of attack there were two 10 and two 8 inch mortars, one 24 and two 18 pounder guns; two 5-inch mortars were attached to Captain Harris's Irregulars. Up to the 28th the rebels, who came out to draw water from a bastion, were invariably picked off by the rifle. The messengers sent by the Queen with letters to the General having invariably been hanged, the correspondence was discontinued. About the 27th masses of rebels began to be observed assembling from two to three miles off our camp. They were said to have been under the command of a brother of the Nana, their purpose being to relieve the town. Still greater atrocities, if possible, than those at Futtahpore and Cawnpore were said to have been perpetrated in June upon the English residents of Jhansi, of whom fifty-five were murdered by immediate orders from the Ranees. On the 1st of April a small portion of Sir Hugh Rose's force advanced to meet the enemy, who were supposed to be 25,000 strong, the investment and bombardment of the town and fort being maintained without interruption. The battle began at daybreak. The rebels, whose best troops consisted of the Bengal Grenadiers and an infantry regiment of the Gwalior Contingent, fought desperately, with the exception of the cavalry. General Rose turned their flank with his artillery and cavalry, when, after making two vigorous stands, they broke and fled, defending themselves individually to the last. They were pursued to the Bhetwa, all their guns, eighteen in number, having fallen into our hands, together with an 8-inch mortar and vast supplies of ammunition. The enemy tried to stop the pursuit by firing the jungle in their rear. Our troops dashed through the conflagration, and, though an exact number of the slaughtered could not be made, the country was left covered with dead. On this occasion our officers escaped without casualties. The siege now proceeded. On the 5th the town was captured, after a very determined resistance, with a loss of 1500 on the rebel side. The guns of the fort had by this time almost become silent. The following day it was in our possession. The Queen contrived to make her escape, and fled with an escort of half a dozen of troopers to the northward.

##### KOTAH.—GENERAL ROBERT'S FORCE.

At the date of our last the Rajpootana Field Force was on its march from Nusseerabad towards Kotah, where the Resident, Major Burton, and his sons and attendants, had been murdered in October. The Rajah, who pretended that it was impossible for him to prevent these atrocities, had separated from the rebels, and the two parties had been for some time fighting with each other, blowing each other's friends from guns as often as they could catch them. On the 22nd our force arrived before the place, and commenced shelling from the mortar batteries erected on the further side of the Chumbul. The enemy replied by well-directed fire from their heavy guns, which seemed to be worked by the artillery and mutineers. Our camp was pitched on purpose well out of range, so that little harm was done by them. The troops in the city were said to be making frequent assaults on the citadel held by the Rajah and his immediate retainers, thus furnishing a valuable diversion in our favour. His Highness had come out to visit Generals Lawrence and Roberts on their arrival, requesting them to join him in the citadel, as this appeared to be the best way of dealing with the rebels holding the town. Not feeling any great confidence either in the sincerity of the chief, or the wisdom of his recommendation, we preferred commencing, at all events, with silencing the batteries commanding the ferry. At this stage our letters close, but we learn by telegraph that on the 30th the place fell into our hands with comparatively little loss, no officer having fallen.

##### OUDÉ.

Our intelligence from Lucknow comes down to the 30th of March, but by far the greater part of it refers to events of which an outline has already been given in our previous issues from the Government telegraphs. Immediately on the capture of the last fragment of the city on the 20th, General Sir Hope Grant proceeded in pursuit of the flying enemy, but seems to have returned almost immediately. On the 23rd he was dispatched against a body of rebels at Korej, about fourteen miles from Lucknow. They were cut to pieces or dispersed, twelve guns having been captured. The entire number of the enemy that seems to have fallen between the beginning of November and the end of March falls short of 6000 men, and if we assume eight times this number to have been seriously wounded, there are still above 100,000 armed rebels or mutineers requiring to be disposed of. On the 14th the Goorkahs, under Jung Bahadur, took the direction of Allahabad. The late besieging army was being broken up into three divisions, one of these consisting of the 20th, 34th, and 84th, the Military Train, some native cavalry, and an ample proportion of artillery, under Sir Edward Lugard, started on the 28th for Azimgurh, where the enemy in force were carrying everything before them. Another, constituting the garrison of Lucknow, was to consist of the 23rd, 35th, 53rd, 90th, 97th, and 1st Madras Fusiliers, with the 2nd Dragoons, the Lahore Light Horse, and a powerful artillery, to be commanded by Sir Hope Grant. A flying column under Brigadier Walpole, and accompanied by the Commander-in-Chief, was to move in the direction of Bareilly. It is to be composed of the 42nd, 75th, 93rd, the 2nd and 3rd battalions of the Rifle Brigade, 1st Bengal Fusiliers, the 2nd and 4th Punjab Infantry, 7th Hussars, 9th Lancers, two regiments of native cavalry, four troops of Horse Artillery, two field batteries, a siege train, an engineer brigade, and the native brigade. Chiefs were daily rendering their allegiance to Sir James Outram.

##### AZIMGHUR.

On the fall of Lucknow the rebels who had escaped from Bhutwa, on the Gogra, proceeded in force towards Azimgurh, where General Franks and Colonel Rowercot appeared shortly before to have cleared the country. Azimgurh was garrisoned by a wing of the 37th, under Colonel Millman, who, on hearing of the approach of the enemy, went out twenty miles to meet them. He attacked and defeated them, the Madras cavalry and horse artillery contributing largely to the victory. He was soon after this so hotly pressed by overwhelming numbers that he was compelled to fall back on Azimgurh. On his retreat his baggage and standing camp were cut off, but it was hoped he would be able to maintain himself within the intrenchments until reinforcements arrived. Expresses were sent off to Benares and Lucknow for assistance. From the former place, as already related, a powerful force proceeded under Sir Edward Lugard on the 25th. Benares had itself been threatened by some 5000 of the rebels with four guns, and all that could be spared was a detachment of fifty dragoons. They were sent off in bullock carts drawn by men. On the evening of the 26th a telegraphic message reached Allahabad, when a wing of the 13th Regiment stationed there, with a dépôt of the 2nd Bays, started by forced marches for Benares on their way to Azimgurh. If Colonel Millman can only hold his own, which we have little doubt he will do, if he only keeps within walls till any one of these succours arrives, he can safely wait for Lugard, who will very quickly give an excellent account of the enemy. But there is still a fearful amount of this sort of work in store for us all over the country. [By a mistake in the Government telegram received last Friday, Colonel Millman's troops were described as being cut up, instead of shut up, in Azimgurh.]

##### CALPEE.

The following is from the *Bombay Times*:—

The enemy still holds the strong fortress of Calpee, which is commanded by a brother of the Nana. A force from it, accompanied by heavy guns, has been for some time besieging a small fort belonging to the Ceirkaree Rajah; but, though the reports thence have been most contradictory, the latest intelligence is that the Rajah still held out. A large British force has entered Rohilkund, and we may hope shortly to hear that Khan Bahadur Khan, and his fanatical adherents in that province, have been signally defeated. The Nana is

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

[The following abstract of the Parliamentary intelligence in both Houses on Friday, the 30th April, appeared in our Saturday's edition last week.]

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY, APRIL 30.

THE OATHS BILL was read a third time and passed.

THE EXCHEQUER BILLS (£20,911,500) BILL passed through Committee, and was ordered to be read a third time on Monday.

Several law bills were advanced a stage, and the House adjourned at half-past five.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY, APRIL 30.

## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved that the House do go into Committee on resolutions on the government of India.

Lord H. VANE moved an amendment—"That the change of circumstances since the first proposal by her Majesty's late advisers to transfer the government of India from the East India Company to the Crown renders it inexpedient to proceed further with legislation on the subject during the present Session." The noble Lord said he did not mean that this should be a party motion, and that he urged his views solely and simply upon public grounds. He contended that public opinion was not decided upon the question, that there were grave doubts as to what the nature of the legislation should be, and that therefore the House might safely postpone the consideration of the subject for another year.

Mr. GREGORY, in seconding the motion, said it had been urged that if this motion were carried it would reverse the decision of the House which was given on the 19th of February last; but he did not think that would be the case, as it was the custom of the House to allow bills to be read a first time, if they did not contain anything objectionable, in order that their details might be considered in Committee. The House went no further than that when it gave consent to the principle affirmed in the bill of the noble Lord the member for Tiverton.

Mr. A. MILLS, in opposition to the amendment, contended that immediate legislation was imperatively called for, and that if they failed to proceed now it would be said that they did so, not because there was a mutiny in India, but because there was a mutiny in the House of Commons (cheers).

Sir F. BARING dwelt upon the difficulty of a subject so important, which he conceived to be such as would warrant delay in legislation, while he denied that delay would be productive of evil consequences in India itself, since the natives generally took little heed of such matters, and the chiefs could not regret the delay of legislation which was not intended to promote the security of their property.

Mr. M. GIBSON said he had not heard a single legitimate argument to justify delay, for Parliament possessed all necessary information and ample time for legislation. Those who asked for delay did so because they wished to leave the Company where it was, and to defeat the bill altogether.

Lord PALMERSTON opposed delay in legislation. The principal change which had occurred since the previous decision of the House to proceed was in reference to his own position, and he saw nothing in that House to prevent progress with the measure. He regretted that it had been decided to proceed by resolutions in the first instance; but, as that decision had been arrived at, he hoped the House would deal with the resolutions at once.

Lord STANLEY, on the part of the Government, said no case had been made out for delay. It was true there were difficulties in the way of dealing with so important a question, but those difficulties would rather increase than diminish with delay; and if the House, in particular, waited until there was perfect unanimity among the leaders of that House, they might have to wait a very long time indeed. If the Ministers had desired to save themselves from trouble and embarrassment, they could have left the resolutions in the hands of Lord J. Russell; but, having accepted the task of bringing resolutions forward, they would, with the favour of that House, acquit themselves to the best of their ability.

The House then divided, and negatived the amendment by 47 to 57: majority, 390.

The House then went into Committee, and

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER proposed his first resolution, as follows:—"That, as the territories under the government of the East India Company are by law to remain under such government only until Parliament shall otherwise provide, this House is of opinion that it is expedient that the transfer of such government to the Crown should now take place, in order that the direct superintendence of the whole empire may be placed under one executive authority."

Mr. MANGLES opposed the motion, contending that the administration of the East India Company had been most beneficial, and that no good would result from the proposed change.

Sir E. COLEBROOKE moved a negative upon the resolution.

Sir G. C. LEWIS deprecated such a course, urging that the House, by previous votes, had decided upon changing the government of India; and that, consequently, the only question remaining to be decided was the way in which that change might best be effected.

Mr. LINDSAY intimated his intention, when the proper resolutions were reached, to move that the Council should, for two years, consist of the present members of the Court of Directors, and that a commission should be appointed to inquire meanwhile into the best means of constituting the Council, and controlling Indian finance for the future.

Mr. HORSMAN deprecated hasty legislation, and especially a transfer of government to the Crown, until it had been clearly ascertained whether India would pay its own expenses for the future.

Mr. BOWYER denounced all legislation as futile which would not secure a Council entirely independent in its constitution.

Col. SYKES was compelled by conscience to express his feelings in opposition to the first resolution, and altogether to deny the expediency of transferring the government of India directly to the Crown.

After some further discussion the resolution was agreed to; and the House, having resumed, adjourned after going through the orders of the day.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

COURT OF CHANCERY.—Viscount LIFFORD having inquired what steps were about to be taken for improving the methods of procedure in the Court of Chancery, replies and explanations on the subject were successively offered by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Cranworth, Lord Campbell, and Lord St. Leonards.

ENDOWED SCHOOLS IN IRELAND.—The Earl of CORK called attention to the last Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the state of Endowed Schools in Ireland.—After some remarks from the Earl of Derby, the Earl of Carlisle, the Bishop of Cashel, Lord St. Germans, and Lord Belmore, the subject dropped.

PROMOTION OF CHRISTIANITY IN INDIA.—The Earl of SHAFTESBURY presented and supported a petition from clergymen of various denominations respecting the promotion of Christianity in India.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

## EXCHEQUER BONDS.

On the second reading of the Exchequer Bonds (£2,000,000) Bill, Sir G. C. LEWIS justified the estimates and vindicated the financial policy which he had announced and pursued during the last twelve months. The bill now presented, he observed, amounted merely to a postponement of debts, adjourning the difficulties of the present year to a more convenient season. He should have preferred the alternative of meeting all accruing claims on account of Exchequer Bonds, or the War Sinking Fund, by continuing for another year the larger tariff of the Income-tax. The quantum of direct taxation was very small, as compared with the indirect branches of revenue, and he thought that there was no necessity to show so much anxiety for its reduction, in the face of an expenditure exceeding the total amount of national income.

Mr. GLADSTONE commented upon the delusive character of sinking funds established upon any other basis than that of a surplus revenue, and among which he believed that the scheme constructed by the late Chancellor of the Exchequer three years since ought to be included. He approved and vindicated the arrangements of the present Finance Minister.

Mr. CARDWELL approved of the postponement of the sinking fund, but thought that the Exchequer Bonds now falling due ought to have been paid off at maturity.

Mr. B. BARING complained of the general propensity which, he said, characterised all Finance Ministers of applying every surplus in the revenue they might happen to enjoy to the reduction of taxation, instead of paying off bygone liabilities.

Mr. BRIGHT vindicated the cause of the industrious taxpayers. Two parties in that House, he remarked, were accusing one another of extravagance, but the people out of doors who had to pay the money were really the most interested in the question. Public economy depended chiefly upon the public policy, and on this point he enjoined the observance of a system which tended to preserve amity with other countries, and render unnecessary the maintenance of the vast and costly armaments which at present oppressed the energies of the country.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER defended the financial policy indicated in his budgetary scheme, and replied to the strictures pronounced on its several points by different critics in the House and elsewhere.

Mr. WILSON, entering at large into the details of finance, urged many objections to the scheme of the Government.

After some further comments and remarks from Sir H. Willoughby, Mr. Slaney, Mr. G. A. Hamilton, Mr. Cayley, and Mr. Ewart, the bill was read a second time.

THE STAMP DUTY ON DRAFTS BILL was also read a second time, after some discussion, in which Mr. T. Baring, Mr. Baxter, Sir G. Pechell, Mr. J. Ewart, and other members, participated, and after a brief defence of the impost by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

The House having gone into Committee on the Government of India, the debate was resumed upon Resolution 2, respecting the appointment of a Secretary of State for the conduct of Indian affairs.

Mr. AYRTON moved, as an amendment, an alternative resolution, setting forth "that in order to ensure the administration of such Government with due care, caution, and efficiency, all the powers and duties now vested in the East India Company, the Court of Directors, or the Court of Proprietors of the said Company, either alone or with the approbation of the Commissioners for the Affairs of India, shall be exercised and performed by a Minister of the Crown in Council."

Lord STANLEY opposed the amendment, contending that it would paralyse the action and divide the responsibility of the proposed Secretary for Indian Affairs.

Mr. R. MANGLES approved of the amendment, which he accepted as a defence and eulogy of the system long since adopted by the Company for the administration of affairs in India.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER recommended the House to proceed in regular order. The resolution before them related only to the proposed Minister for India. The question of the Council came afterwards, and could be discussed in its proper place.

Mr. V. SMITH agreed that the Minister of the Crown should possess paramount authority, as the necessary adjunct of undivided responsibility.

Sir H. VERNER opposed the amendment, which would, he observed, confer on the Council an exorbitant power, extending even to the recall of the Governor-General.

Mr. ROEBUCK considered that the functions of the Minister and Council, being co-ordinate, must be discussed together. They had now to determine how the government of India should be carried on in England, and, as the House of Commons was the great governing power in this country, the Indian Minister should be rendered solely and entirely responsible to that assembly.

Sir H. Willoughby having spoken,

Lord PALMERSTON supported the resolution.

Lord J. RUSSELL described the principle upon which, in his opinion, the Indian Council should be constituted.

Mr. GLADSTONE entered into a minute examination of the powers and functions of the proposed Council, as indicated severally by the resolutions laid before the House, the amendment moved by Mr. Ayrton, and the speeches that had been made on either side during the discussion. His resulting conclusion was favourable to the amendment, which he intended to support.

Mr. White and Sir C. Wood offered a few remarks, and, after a reply from Mr. Ayrton,

The Committee divided:—For the amendment, 100; against it, 351.

The House then resumed, and the remaining orders of the day were disposed of.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

## ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSION BILL

The second reading of this bill was moved by the Earl of DERBY.

After some discussion, in which the Duke of Marlborough, the Earl of Chichester, and other Peers participated, the motion was agreed to, and the bill was read a second time, and referred to a Select Committee.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL ESTATES AGGREGATE CORPORATION BILL was also read a second time, and referred to a Select Committee.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

SALE AND TRANSFER OF LANDS (IRELAND) BILL.—THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL for IRELAND asked leave to introduce a bill to facilitate the sale and transfer of land in Ireland.—After some discussion, in which Mr. J. D. Fitzgerald, Sir E. Perry, Mr. Deasy, and some other members took part, the motion was agreed to, and leave given to bring in the bill.

## THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

Mr. GLADSTONE moved, by way of resolution, "That an humble address be presented to the Crown, submitting to her Majesty that this House, bearing in mind the obligations imposed by the Treaty of Paris, so far as they affect the Danubian Principalities, has observed with satisfaction the general tenor and spirit of the declaration recorded by her Majesty's chief Plenipotentiary at the conference of 1856, concerning the future organisation of those territories, and conveying an earnest hope that in the further prosecution of this important subject just weight may be given to those wishes of the people of Wallachia and of Moldavia which, through their representatives elected in conformity with the said treaty, they have recently expressed." The right hon. gentleman, in supporting his motion, urged various motives of expediency and justice in favour of effecting a union between the two Danubian provinces. He advocated the right possessed by five millions of Christians to be aided and encouraged in establishing an independent nationality, which, as he believed, would constitute the most effectual barrier between Western Europe and Russian aggression on one frontier, or Mahometan bigotry on the other. The question now rested with England and France. The conferences at Paris would be resumed in a few days, and if the opportunity were missed the most serious evil might ensue, and the peace of Europe be fatally compromised.

Mr. S. FITZGERALD deprecated the discussion of a motion which, he said, would seriously embarrass the diplomatic proceedings of the Government, and commit the Legislature to a definite conclusion upon a point which was still under investigation, and would a few days hence be submitted to the consideration of the assembled representatives of all the great European States.

The motion was supported by Mr. DEASY.

Lord R. CECIL supported the motion, declaring that the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in opposing it, had made a bad defence of a bad cause.

Mr. ROEBUCK advocated the cause of the Principalities, whose people were anxious to secure national independence and representative institutions. In this object the British Parliament were now invited to aid them, and he rejoined the House not to neglect the opportunity.

After some remarks from Mr. Duff,

Lord PALMERSTON opposed the motion, on grounds based chiefly upon the treaty obligations subsisting between England and Turkey. The Western Powers were, no doubt, bound to secure independence to the population of the Principalities. This object had carefully been kept in view. The inhabitants of Moldavia and Wallachia had enjoyed freedom, and would continue to enjoy it, but under conditions which did not involve their total disunion from the Turkish empire.

Lord J. RUSSELL admitted that the Western Powers were quite as much bound to preserve the integrity of Turkey as to secure the independence of the Principalities. The former results, however, could, he thought, be provided for, while affording the freest possible scope for the constitutional liberties and self-government of the inhabitants of Wallachia, either in the case of these provinces or of Sardinia, for the accusation that England encouraged other nations to assert their rights, and then abandoned them in the struggle.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER observed that the British Government were proceeding on this question in strict accord with that of France; and if the House, by a hasty vote, compelled the adoption of an independent line, the result would be to bring about a serious diplomatic dilemma. He read the articles regarding this point, contained in the Treaty of Paris, arguing that the resolution now proposed would practically violate the terms to which England had made herself a party, and which included a maintenance of the suzerainty of Turkey over the Principalities, as well as of the liberties of their population.

Mr. GLADSTONE having replied, the House divided:—For the resolution, 114; against, 292.

THE CAGLIARI.—Mr. KINGLAKE, in postponing his motion respecting the diplomatic question between Sardinia and Naples, inquired whether any account had been received respecting the liberation of the crew of the *Cagliari* steamer?—Mr. S. FITZGERALD stated that a despatch received that afternoon from Count Cavour announced a complete accordance between the Sardinian Government and her Majesty's Ministers, the late despatch from the Foreign Secretary having proved satisfactory. Regarding the crew of the *Cagliari* he had no information to impart.

ECCLESIASTICAL CORPORATIONS LEASING.—Leave was given to the HOME SECRETARY to bring in a bill to amend the Act 5 and 6 Victoria, enabling ecclesiastical corporations, aggregate and sole, to grant leases for long terms of years. The bill was read the first time.

SALE, &c., OF LAND CORPORATIONS.—Sir W. HEATHCOTE obtained leave to bring in a bill to enlarge the powers of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and of the colleges thereof, for the sale, exchange, and leasing of lands. The bill was read the first time.

THE EXCHEQUER BONDS (£2,000,000) BILL passed through Committee.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

## MARRIAGE LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

Viscount BURY moved the second reading of this bill.

Mr. B. HOPE brought forward an amendment deferring the second reading for six months. He denied that the petitions in favour of the measure, numerous as they might be, conveyed any real expression of public opinion; and, after dilating upon the scriptural argument, contended that the unions which the bill was intended to legalise had been prohibited alike under the Mosaic dispensation, by the canon law of England, and by the laws of nature.

Mr. BUXTON defended the bill, which would, as he believed, remove a difficulty which weighed most oppressively and injuriously upon individuals, for which no substantial reason had been adduced.

Mr. COLLIER also supported the bill, as did Mr. M. T. BAINES and Sir G. C. LEWIS.

THE LORD ADVOCATE and Mr. FULLER opposed the motion.

Mr. M. MILNES vindicated the principle on which the bill was founded; and, after some remarks from Mr. AKROYD and Mr. WILSON, who also supported the measure,

The House divided: For the motion, 174; for the amendment, 134.

The bill was then read a second time, and ordered to be committed.

THE EXCHEQUER BONDS (£2,000,000) BILL was read a third time, and passed.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

THE CUSTOMS DUTIES BILL (No. 2) and EXCISE DUTIES BILL were read a second time.

THE LITURGY OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

Lord Ebury moved "that an humble address be presented to her Majesty for a commission to consider whether

the Liturgy of the Church of England be not capable of such alterations as may render it more profitable than it now is for the religious instruction and edification of the people."—The Archbishop of CANTERBURY reluctantly opposed the motion, as he thought that, if any alteration were to be made in the Liturgy, it ought to proceed from the Church itself.—The Bishop of St. DAVIDS and the Bishop of CASHEL also opposed the motion.—The Earl of DERBY followed on the same side; and, after some further discussion, the motion was negatived without a division.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

THE INDIAN MUTINY.—In reply to Mr. Bright, Mr. DISRAELI said that the Government three weeks ago received a copy of the proclamation recently issued by the Governor-General of India; and that, after taking its contents into full consideration, her Majesty's Ministers sent out a despatch in which they expressed their disapproval of the policy of that proclamation in every respect.

TENANT RIGHT.—Mr. GREER moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the nature, origin, and extent of the tenant-right custom in Ireland, the recent alleged violations of it in various northern counties, and to consider and report how far it may be practicable to protect, for the benefit of the occupying tenants, the property which had been created under that custom.—Lord NAAS admitted the importance of the subject, but objected to the appointment of a Select Committee as being altogether unnecessary, inasmuch as there had already been sufficient inquiry; and ample information upon the question, in all its bearings, was to be found in the library of that House.—Mr. C. FORTESCUE and Mr. P. O'BRIEN both advised the withdrawal of the motion.—Mr. GREER, however, refused to adopt the suggestion, and the House divided, negativing the motion by 232 to 43: majority, 189.

COUNTY FRANCHISE (SCOTLAND).—Mr. CAIRD asked leave to introduce a bill to assimilate the county franchise of Scotland with that of England. He showed that there was no franchise in Scotland equivalent to the 40s. freehold in England; and he called upon Parliament to put an end to the distinction between the privileges of the two countries, the effect of which was to place the representation of Scotland entirely in the hands of the aristocracy



SKETCHES IN CHINA.—(FROM OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.)—CANTON, LOOKING TOWARDS THE GOVERNMENT LANDING-PIER.



SKETCHES IN CHINA.—(FROM OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.)—LOOKING TOWARDS WHAMPOA FROM CANTON.



MDLLE. TITIENS, THE NEW PRIMA DONNA AT HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

THIS lady, now the brightest star of the musical stage, is a native of Hamburg, but of Hungarian extraction, and descended of a noble family. She was born in 1834, and is thus in her twenty-fourth year. Like most great musical artists she showed a disposition for the art at an early age, and, after having received instructions from an eminent Italian master, she appeared on the Hamburg stage at fifteen. Her outset in life was romantic. A young man of considerable fortune fell in love with her and sought her hand; but her unconquerable attachment to the stage led her to reject his addresses. Her guardian (her father was then dead) used all his authority and influence to get her to withdraw from the stage, and a sort of compromise was made that she should do so for twelve months at all events, to return to the stage at the end of that time should her inclination for it continue unabated. At the end of nine months her love of her art prevailed: she returned to the stage, sacrificing to it her domestic prospects. While performing at Hamburg she was seen and heard by the Director of the Opera of Frankfort-on-the-Main, who immediately engaged her. At Frankfort she appeared in the great parts which have since rendered her famous. Her growing celebrity attracted the attention of the Director of the Imperial Theatre at Vienna, with whom she entered into an engagement for three years, of which one year is yet to run, her present visit to London being on a congé for a limited time. At Vienna she soon rose to the height of public favour, and was on the

point of renewing her engagement with the direction of the Imperial Theatre, when Mr. Lumley, arriving at Vienna at a critical time, was enabled to make her a more eligible proposal, and to secure her for Her Majesty's Theatre.

On the subject of Mdlle. Titien's power as an actress and singer it is unnecessary to say much at present after the expressions of opinion so strongly and unanimously uttered by the English public. The general impression created by her is that she is essentially a tragedian; and this, we believe, is, on the whole, the case, though we understand that she has appeared in comedy with success.

At Vienna it recently happened that "Martha," a light and elegant comic opera, was announced; but the lady to whom the part of the heroine belonged having been suddenly taken ill, Mdlle. Titien, to prevent the public from being disappointed, undertook the character, and performed it to the admiration and delight of the audience. This, however, is an exceptional case. The great parts in which she has gained her renown are *Valentine*, in the "Huguenots"; *Norma*, "Lucrezia Borgia"; *Donna Anna*, in "Don Giovanni"; the *Countess*, in "Figaro"; *Leonora*, in "Fidelio"; and *Leonora*, in the "Trovatore," in which last she has appeared during the present week; so that it may be said that her "line" is tragedy, or the class of comedy which is akin to tragedy. We add, with great pleasure, that Mdlle. Titien is not less amiable as a woman than illustrious as an artist. Her manners are singularly engaging; and we have heard many pleasing traits of her kindly and generous nature.

#### NATIONAL HOLIDAYS.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

WILL you allow me to say a few words to the readers of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS on this interesting subject, which you deserve our hearty thanks for introducing? I quite agree with you as to the desirability of increasing our scanty store of general holidays by a few additions to the great days and festive seasons which all of us, according to our ability and tastes, strive to keep. Christmas and Easter are welcome resting-places in every annual journey, and are part and parcel of our heritage, prized and treasured as all we have left of a more liberal bequest from our forefathers; and, however religious dissensions may sometimes divide us as a Christian people, I believe there are very few among us, either of Englishmen in England or Englishmen dwelling in all the regions of the earth, who do not acknowledge at least the influence and power of old associations and home feelings, and seek to renew them year by year as these times come round again. And I feel assured that any movement for more national holidays must be founded on national feeling, and appeal to a sense of religious duty and loyal principle—two elements which pre-eminently enter into the composition of a true Englishman—to meet with universal acceptance and enduring success. Now, I would suggest that there are two days in the year which do fulfil these conditions—one hallowed throughout Christendom as the Festival of the Ascension of our Blessed Lord; and the other sanctioned by our Book of Common Prayer, and commanding itself to our loyal acknowledgments—the anniversary of the accession of our beloved Queen to the throne of these realms. Regard to your valuable space prevents me from fully entering into the argument in favour of those days. Let me say that the House of Lords, and in a partial degree the House of Commons, have set the nation the example of holding Ascension-day sacred from ordinary work, and that the Accession Service is the only one of the four State forms of prayer which the people would care to retain. I attach importance, in these practical and busy times, to the ground on which the demand for holidays is made: the manner in which they are kept must depend, as now, on individual sentiment and position; and I see no cause to fear the result, or to doubt the benefit, of conferring the boon. It is well to remember that the great majority can only keep the Christmas-day and Good Friday as special holidays, and have not the leisure to pass a week in ease or recreation, and that a long day in the month of May or June, with free leave to enjoy it, would be indeed a welcome privilege and most valuable relaxation.—Your obedient servant,

HENRY R. CLARKE.

#### PROCLAMING THE CLOSE OF THE DIET IN STOCKHOLM.

THE Swedish Diet was closed on the 10th of March after an unusually long Session, which commenced on the 23rd of October, 1856. A few days before the opening of the Diet, and on the day before its close, the ceremony represented in the Sketch takes place. The Herald of the Kingdom, escorted by two squadrons of the Horse Guards, with trumpets and kettle-drums, proceeds to the squares and open places in various parts of the city, and reads the Royal proclamation convoking or dismissing the Estates of the Realm. The former is called "blowing in" and the latter "blowing out" the Diet. After this preliminary ceremony in the streets, generally on the following day, the four Houses composing the Diet assemble in the "Hall of the Estates" at the Palace to hear the Speech from the throne.

The present Sketch is taken on the Riddarholms Torg, or Square of the House of Nobles. On the right is the statue of Gustavus Vasa, and in



CHESTER RACES.—THE STEWARDS' CUP, 1858.

the background is seen the Riddarholm Church, where lie the remains of Gustavus Adolphus and Charles XII.

A letter from Stockholm says that the Prince Regent is to proceed at the beginning of this month to Christiania, to open the Storthing for an extraordinary Session. The only business which it will have to transact is, the letter says, to give its approval to the loan contracted with Messrs. Baring, of London, and to provide means for making the receipts of the Budget equal the expenses.

#### CHESTER RACES : THE STEWARDS' CUP FOR 1858.

THE design of the Stewards' Cup run for on Friday is appropriately taken from an incident in the history of this ancient city. Founded by the Romans, added to and increased by the Romanised Britons, and held to be of the highest importance by the Saxons, Chester fell shortly after the Conquest into the hands of the Normans, and the Conqueror thought it of such importance that he gave the shire as a grant to his nephew, Hugh Lupus (Hugh of Avranch), and at the same time created him an Earl. The artist of the Cup has chosen the subject from this chronicle. Two citizens of Chester are kneeling before Earl Hugh, and presenting him with the keys of the city; and the Conqueror, bending from his horse, confers the earldom upon him. A page holds the horse of William the Norman, and his standard floats above his head. The Cup is of oxidised silver, partly gilt; the model-



PROCLAMING THE CLOSE OF THE SWEDISH DIET IN THE STREETS OF STOCKHOLM.



from the turmoil of Reform, and then took a deeper interest in the battles of parties than in social improvements. The Whigs and their supporters were busy scheming how they could preserve power; the Tories were exerting themselves to turn out the Whigs, and, in their contests, the relief of trade and the welfare of the people were forgotten. After the Tories triumphed, to maintain their superiority, to conciliate the people, and appease discontent, as they were opposed to all kinds of Parliamentary or constitutional reform, they gave the nation commercial reform. At the latter of the two epochs a revolutionary mania overspread Europe. It began in France in 1848; it extended to Germany, Poland, Italy, and Hungary, and was in the end, after much commotion, rather diverted from its object by the great gold discoveries than cured by the wisdom of the rulers of Europe. The constitutional diseases from which it sprang remain; but those discoveries substituted the desire of gold for the desire of political reform, and directed much of the overflowing activity of Europe to Australia and California, and to the profitable trade they called into existence. Now the whole population of Europe is much more intent on industrial than on political matters. If Governments be suspicious or angrily frowning on one another, or very energetic in creating disputes for them to settle, the people appear everywhere much more desirous to extend trade and increase prosperity than wage war or rush into revolution. The commercial convulsion affected them, and they are anxious to restore credit, revive confidence, and prosecute with renewed vigour many enterprises which the convulsion interrupted. The commercial spirit is fairly roused throughout Europe, and, selfish though it be, it can only be gratified by contributing to the welfare of others. It will tend to maintain peace and hasten the return of general prosperity.

Trade with India and with China may be diminished by political events, but with all other parts of the world it seems likely rapidly to increase. Gold is accumulating in London, New York, and Paris; and money, which Mr. Cayley regards as the great cause of prosperity, is becoming cheap. Both at Paris and New York trade is reviving. Everywhere the seasons are propitious, and all the sources of wealth promise to be abundant. Everywhere wants which we can supply are increasing. The return of prosperity, therefore, is not likely to be so long delayed as at either of the former epochs, and when it does return it will probably be with a full spring tide. Men are everywhere now sensible of the utility of trade. They have got rid of the old prejudice that it enriches one nation at the expense of another, and know that it is a mutual exchange which enriches all. Our free trade has enabled us to confer inestimable advantages on other peoples, and has increased in them the desire to acquire wealth by commerce. To this policy we shall be indebted for the more speedy revival of trade now anticipated; and it is a great satisfaction to observe that the policy which has contributed to so good an end is, by the state of parties at home and the condition of Governments abroad, secured from interruption, and certain to be extended.

THE Western Bank of Scotland, established at Glasgow, and one of the first to stop payment in the late commercial crisis which it helped to bring on, was authorised by law to issue notes to the extent of £337,938, uncovered by specie. By an act of bankruptcy it forfeited this privilege; and it lately requested the Treasury to be enabled to sell it, as if it had not been forfeited, and to procure an Act of Parliament to sanction the sale. Very properly, the Treasury declined to comply with the request. The bank, in making it, stated that one or more of the Scotch banks would give a large consideration for this privilege of issue, could it be transferred, teaching us how an Act of Parliament which proposes only to regulate a particular business confers on some individuals a great pecuniary advantage at the expense of others. The Western Bank estimates the annual gain of an issue of £239,368 notes—the actual average amount of its issue uncovered by gold—with discount at five per cent, at £8968. If the Western Bank gains this sum on £239,368, the rule of three tells us that the Bank of England, on the £14,000,000 notes which it is authorised to issue, uncovered by gold, gains £500,000 per annum; and that all the banks, taking their uncovered circulation at £32,000,000, gain very nearly £1,200,000 per annum. Now, as the Government does not make over to these banks one penny out of the taxes, the law, in fact, enables them to levy it on the community. The privilege conferred on the Western Bank of Scotland was worth £239,368 per annum; and the privilege conferred by the same Act of Parliament, the Act of 1844, on all the banks, is worth to them nearly £1,200,000 a year. By what right does the Legislature concede to this body of men the exclusive privilege of obtaining such a sum of money from their fellow-citizens? It is bound equally to protect the property of all, and by conferring such a privilege on a few it infringes the property of the rest. It may be said, perhaps, that the bankers pay stamp duties. So they do, but other people pay stamp duties of various kinds also; and political economy is at fault if the bankers cannot and do not recover from their customers the stamp duties they pay. For a considerable time the worth of the exclusive privilege of issuing notes has been a subject of discussion, some Economists rating it very high, others depreciating it as much; now we have the testimony of one of the monopolists to its value. It enriches the issuing bankers to the extent of £1,200,000 per annum, abstracted from the property of the rest of the community.

SIR COLIN CAMPBELL.—Her Majesty has been most graciously pleased to signify to Sir Colin Campbell her intention of raising him to the dignity of the British Peerage, in consequence of his distinguished services.

ENTERTAINMENT TO THE JUDGES AT THE MANSION HOUSE. On Wednesday the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress gave a grand entertainment to her Majesty's Judges and the leading members of the bar in the Egyptian Hall. Covers were laid for 280 persons. During the arrival of the guests, the band of the Artillery Company performed in the saloon, and they also performed while the company were partaking of the splendid hospitalities of their host.

THE HOP SEASON.—The *Sussex Advertiser* announces that the hop-picking in Kent is nearly finished. The tying has commenced in several places, the bine in general looks healthy, there have been several beneficial showers during the past week, quite sufficient for the progress of vegetation, and the appearances of the crops are most satisfactory.

A BOAT with fourteen man-of-war's men, belonging to H.M.S. *Renown*, and two watermen, went down in Plymouth Sound on Friday (last week). Four of the seamen were drowned; the watermen and the rest of the seamen were picked up by the boats of the *Renown*, from whose decks the accident was witnessed.

## METROPOLITAN NEWS.

### THE MAY MEETINGS.

The annual gatherings of the religious and benevolent societies at this season of the year, familiarly known as the May Meetings, and of which Exeter Hall is the chosen temple, have commenced in full force. We had prepared a detailed account of their proceedings, but we are constrained by the demand on our space by other matters to reduce the report to a mere outline of the doings at the chief of these interesting meetings.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.—The fifty-fourth anniversary of this society was held on Wednesday in the large room of Exeter Hall, which was densely crowded in every part. The major part of the assembly was composed of ladies, whose bright and variegated summer costume gave an exhilarating appearance to the proceedings. The Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury presided on the occasion. The proceedings were of a most animating and cheering character. The issues of the society for the past year were as follows:—From the dépôts at home and abroad, 1,602,187 copies of the Scriptures, being an increase of 84,329 copies over those of any preceding year. The total issues of the society now amount to 33,983,946 copies.

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The anniversary of this society was held on Tuesday morning at Exeter Hall—the Earl of Chichester in the chair. The large hall was densely crowded. The report detailed at great length the operations of the society. The income of the society during the year was £155,484, and its expenditure £127,345, which, leaving out of account the special India Fund, leaves a balance of £1444. There are 225 clergymen employed in the missions, and upwards of 2100 lay agents. Its operations embrace India, China, and Ceylon, some parts of Africa, North-West America, the Mauritius, and New Zealand.

THE WESLEYAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of this society was held on Monday at Exeter Hall. Lord Panmure presided. The report of the society was read and adopted, and a resolution for the promotion and extension of missions was unanimously carried by a most crowded audience. Twenty-two missionaries and twelve wives of missionaries, with one schoolmistress, have been sent out by this society since last anniversary.

NAVAL AND MILITARY BIBLE SOCIETY.—The eighteenth annual general meeting of the members and friends of this society was held on Monday morning at Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's—the Marquis of Cholmondeley in the chair. The report stated that during the past year the society had circulated 19,973 copies of the Scriptures amongst sailors, soldiers, and canal boatmen. The number of Bibles and Testaments supplied to troops going to India since January 26th last year had been 12,489.

HOME AND COLONIAL SCHOOL SOCIETY.—On Monday the annual examination and meeting of this society was held at the institution, Gray's-inn-road. The examination of the children of the model schools gave the greatest satisfaction. At the meeting in the afternoon Mr. Labouchere presided, in the absence of the Earl of Chichester. The report read by the secretary was a very lengthy document, and gave an interesting account of the operations of the society and the educational movement generally. The balance-sheet showed the receipts for the year to have been £7307 10s. 11d.; and after the expenses had been met there was a balance of £10 3s. 5d. in hand.

THE CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY has issued a special appeal for India. They propose to devote £10,000 (or £2000 per annum for five years) towards the promotion of various objects connected with the extension of Christian knowledge in that land. To meet this great liability they "hope that large and liberal additions will be made to the pecuniary means of this society." At a meeting on Tuesday the society agreed that £1000 should be granted towards the endowment of the new see of Brisbane, the colony which her Majesty's Government have announced their intention of forming out of the northern portion of New South Wales.

LONDON HOSPITAL.—The one hundred and eighteenth anniversary festival of this charity was celebrated on Wednesday evening at the London Tavern—the Earl of Carlisle in the chair. The out-patients last year amounted to 24,348, exclusive of trifling casualties; the in-patients to 3935: of these 2688 were admitted freely without any recommendation or restriction. The number of accidents relieved during the past year amounted to 11,000. Last year the expenses amounted to £17,000, whilst the fixed income amounted to only £12,000. The subscriptions of the evening amounted to the liberal sum of £258.

THE CANCER HOSPITAL.—The annual general meeting of the subscribers to this institution took place on Wednesday at the offices in Piccadilly—Mr. Oliver Farrer in the chair. The report of the committee stated that the charity was gradually progressing in public estimation, the income during the past year having been larger than that of the preceding year, and the expenses had not exceeded relatively those of preceding years.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—On Wednesday the annual ceremony of conferring degrees on students who have gone through the usual curriculum at this University, and who have satisfactorily passed the prescribed examinations, took place at Burlington House, Piccadilly. Earl Granville, Chancellor of the University, presided, his Lordship being attired in full academic robes; and there was a large and fashionable attendance of ladies and gentlemen. At the conclusion, the Chancellor addressed the graduates and students on the successful result of their studies, and the progress of the University.

THE ROYAL BENEVOLENT SOCIETY held its inauguration dinner at the London Tavern on Thursday—his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, K.G., patron of the society, in the chair. This society has been established for the promotion of industry, the investigation of cases of distress, the assistance of deserving destitute persons, and the collection and diffusion of information tending to ameliorate the condition of the poor.

PROPOSAL FOR OPENING ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL ON SUNDAY EVENINGS.—A meeting of merchants and bankers has been recently held at the Mansion House, under the auspices of the Bishop of London, to consider the practicability of opening the Cathedral on Sunday evening for the benefit of the working classes. The meeting was presided over by the Lord Mayor. The Bishop of London, Doctor Milman (the Dean of St. Paul's), Mr. Cotton, Alderman Wilson, Alderman Mechi, Archdeacon Hale, and other gentlemen, addressed the meeting, and a numerous committee was formed, with power to add to their number, to consider and devise the mode of bringing the subject before the public.

BATTERSEA PARK AND CHELSEA BRIDGE.—The whole outlay on Battersea Park is stated by a Parliamentary paper, published on Saturday last, to have been £312,890, of which £246,517 was paid for the purchase of land. The quantity of land set aside for the park is 185 acres, and 101 acres remain unsold. On Chelsea New Bridge (described in detail in the columns of this Journal) the whole outlay has been £85,319. The estimated yearly income from toll is £6000, and £550 is the estimated yearly cost of its collection. On Chelsea embankment £111,439 has been laid out.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—A new season was opened at the Crystal Palace on Saturday last, with several minor improvements, either carried out or in progress. A concert in the new orchestra and a floral promenade were the particular features of the day. The improvements consists more of a general rearrangement and renovation than anything else. There is, however, one new "lion," in the shape of a monster nugget of gold, weighing 1743 ounces, the largest yet discovered.

MR. CHARLES DICKENS will read his "Christmas Carol," at St. Martin's Hall, on Thursday next, the 13th inst.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—Last week the births of 851 boys and 866 girls, in all 1717 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1848-57 the average number was 1813.—The deaths registered in London in the first three weeks of April were successively 1221, 1207, and 1144; in the last week they were 1125. The deaths of last week were less by twenty-four than the number which the average rate of mortality has produced.

THE EARLDOM OF SHREWSBURY.—The proceedings in this important case were resumed on Tuesday before the Committee of Privileges of the House of Lords, when Mr. Ellis summed up on the part of Earl Talbot, and contended that the pedigrees produced, together with the recital in the private Act of Parliament, and the unimpeached solemn declaration of all the then known members of the family made for the purpose of the deed of settlement of 1718, substantially proved the two propositions involved in Lord Talbot's claim—namely, the nearest heir male of William of Whittington was the nearest heir male of the first Earl of Shrewsbury; that the claimant was the nearest heir male of William of Whittington, and was, therefore, Earl of Shrewsbury. Sir R. Bethell then opened the case on the part of Lord Edward Howard, the son of the Duke of Norfolk, and others opposing the claim, contending that there were many important links wanting to sustain the right put forth by Lord Talbot to the earldom of Shrewsbury, and urging upon the Committee that, as their decision was unalterable, it was of the greatest consequence that they should exercise the utmost caution before they said that Lord Talbot's claim had been fully established. The learned gentleman had not concluded his address when their Lordships adjourned. Major Talbot applied to put in a case, but their Lordships refused to hear it until it had been submitted to the Attorney-General. Sir R. Bethell resumed his address on the part of Lord Edward Howard on Thursday, and, having gone minutely through the evidence produced in favour of the claim set up by Earl Talbot, contended that there was no proof to sustain that claim. The proceedings were subsequently adjourned.

SIR COLIN CAMPBELL.—Her Majesty has been most graciously pleased to signify to Sir Colin Campbell her intention of raising him to the dignity of the British Peerage, in consequence of his distinguished services.

ENTERTAINMENT TO THE JUDGES AT THE MANSION HOUSE. On Wednesday the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress gave a grand entertainment to her Majesty's Judges and the leading members of the bar in the Egyptian Hall. Covers were laid for 280 persons. During the arrival of the guests, the band of the Artillery Company performed in the saloon, and they also performed while the company were partaking of the splendid hospitalities of their host.

THE HOP SEASON.—The *Sussex Advertiser* announces that the hop-picking in Kent is nearly finished. The tying has commenced in several places, the bine in general looks healthy, there have been several beneficial showers during the past week, quite sufficient for the progress of vegetation, and the appearances of the crops are most satisfactory.

A BOAT with fourteen man-of-war's men, belonging to H.M.S. *Renown*, and two watermen, went down in Plymouth Sound on Friday (last week). Four of the seamen were drowned; the watermen and the rest of the seamen were picked up by the boats of the *Renown*, from whose decks the accident was witnessed.

## OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

### THE DEAN OF YORK.

THE VERY REV. SIR WM. COCKBURN, ninth Baronet, of Langton, county of Berwick, Dean of York, and Rector of Kelston, Somersetshire, was the third son of Sir James Cockburn, M.P., the sixth Baronet, by his second wife, Augusta Anne, daughter of the Very Rev. Francis Ayscough, D.D., Dean of Bristol, preceptor to George III.; and was the brother of General Sir James Cockburn, G.C.H., the seventh Baronet, and of Admiral Sir George Cockburn, G.C.B., the eighth Baronet. He was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, and obtained a fellowship of that college. He graduated as B.A. in 1785, when he was twelfth Wrangler; M.A. in 1798, and was made a D.D. in 1823. He was Christian Advocate to the University of Cambridge in 1803; and was in 1822 appointed Dean of York, and in 1832 presented to the rectory of Kelston. He married, first, in 1805, Elizabeth, second daughter of Sir Robert Peel, Bart., and sister of the late eminent statesman; and by her, who died in 1828, he had three sons, all now deceased, the eldest of them having alone married, and left two daughters—viz., Mrs. Fane and Mrs. Astley. The Dean married, secondly, in 1839, Emma, daughter of Colonel Pearce, of Harley Hall, Cambridgeshire, but has had no other issue. He inherited the baronetcy the 19th May, 1853, on the death of his brother, Sir George Cockburn, a Lord of the Admiralty and Admiral of England. The very rev. gentleman died at an advanced age, on the 30th ult., at his rectory, Kelston. He is succeeded by his nephew (his next brother's), Alexander Cockburn, British Minister in Columbia, only son, the Right Hon. Sir Alexander James Edmund Cockburn, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, and now the tenth Baronet.

WILLS.—The will of the Right Hon. Henry Stephen Fox Strangways, Earl of Ilchester, Baron Strangways, and Baron Redlynch, P.C., D.C.L., was proved in London, by the Right Hon. William Thomas Horner Fox, Earl of Ilchester, and the Hon. John George Charles Fox Strangways, the half-brothers, and executors: the personality sworn under £70,000. The will, dated 10th Nov., 1857, bequeaths to his two daughters, Lady Digby and Lady Kerrison, each a legacy of £10,000, and also to each an annuity of £2000 a year, and to Lord Digby and Sir Edward Clarence Kerrison bequeaths the leasehold estates. The real estates in Dorsetshire are devised to Lord Ilchester, and those in Wilts to the Hon. John G. C. Fox Strangways. Bequeaths to the Dorset County Hospital, £500; and to the Weymouth Eye Infirmary, £100; and the residue to Lord Ilchester.—The will of the Right Hon. Lady Lucy Pusey, of Grosvenor-square, dated Nov., 1856, was proved under £14,000; the son, the Rev. Edward Bouverie Pusey, D.D., Canon of Christ Church, and Regius Professor of Hebrew, Oxford, is the acting executor, power being reserved to the Rev. William Bouverie Pusey, M.A., the son also and other executor. Has bequeathed the house and furniture, Grosvenor-square, to her son Edward; and, with the exception of a portion of plate left to her son William, and a few other specific and pecuniary bequests, has directed the residue of the property to be divided between her sons and daughters and two grandchildren.—[The will of Sir John Hamilton, noticed last week, should have been stated as proved under £30,000.]

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS IN THE CHURCH.—*Canonries*: Rev. J. L. Hodges, Perpetual Curate of Wetheral and Warwick, and the Rev. J. A. La Trobe, Perpetual Curate of St. Thomas's, Kendal, to be Honorary Canons of Carlisle Cathedral.—*Chaplaincies*: Rev. E. M. Goulburn, Merton College, Oxford; Rev. C. F. Tarver, Rector of Iklets-hall, St. John's, Suffolk; Rev. F. B. Zincke, of Wherstead, Suffolk, to be Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen; Rev. H. F. Smith, to Lancaster Castle; Rev. A. R. Ward to the Freemasons' Grand Lodge of England.—*Rectories*: Rev. R. Bond to Pulham St. Mary the Virgin, Norfolk; Rev. A. N. Bredin to the Rectory and Vicarage of Closast, diocese of Kildare; Rev. C. W. Burton to Cliburn, Westmoreland; Rev. R. Chambers to Merston, Chichester; Rev. C. F. Childe to Holbrook, Suffolk; Rev. J. Field to West Rounton; Rev. T. N. Irwin to Charlinch, near Bridgewater; Rev. J. N. Regan to the Rectory, Vicarage, and Prebendary of Dunlavin, diocese of Dublin; Rev. F. Shepherd to Patrington, Yorkshire. *Vicarage*: Rev. W. Jackson to Heathfield, Sussex.—*Incumbency*: Rev. W. Malpas to St. Mark's, Lower Easton, Bristol.—*Perpetual Curacies*: Rev. C. S. Aitken to Carnmenellis, Cornwall; Rev. F. W. Freeman to Pulham St. Mary Magdalene, Norfolk.—*Curacies*: Rev. A. Dixon to Stoke Damerel, Devon; Rev. W. J. Frampton to St. John's, Leicester; Rev. F. W. Kingsford to St. Martin-in-the-Fields; Rev. A. H. Lutman to St. John's, Peterborough; Rev. A. M. Norman to Sedgefield, Durham; Rev. J. Palmer to Lancaster; Rev. W. H. D. Purcell to Pershore, Worcestershire; Rev. J. H. Steble to Hawksworth, Lancashire; Rev. W. A. Voss to Barford St. Martin, Wilts; Rev. F. O. White to Northborough, Northamptonshire.—*Lectureship*: Rev. J. W. Burke to be Evening Lecturer of All Saints' and St. Mary's, Huntingdon.

THE OPIUM TRAFFIC.—A public meeting, attended by about fifteen hundred persons, was held at Birmingham on Tuesday night, to consider the propriety of petitioning Parliament for the suppression of the growth of opium in British India for consumption in China. The Mayor was in the chair. Foremost among the speakers was the venerable John Angel James, who uttered a solemn protest against the continuance of the iniquitous trade.

The number of patients relieved at the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's-inn-road, last week was 2204, of which 744 were new cases.

## THE AUSTRIAN STEAM-YACHT "FANTASIE."

SOME few weeks since we noticed the launch at Blackwall of this beautiful steam-yacht, intended as a present from the Emperor of Austria to his brother, the Grand Duke Maximilian. She has been constructed by the Thames Shipbuilding Company, from designs by Mr. James Ash, and is propelled by engines of 120 horses, nominal power, made on the trunk principle, by the Messrs. George Rennie and Sons, of Southwark; and the following are her principal dimensions:—Length between perpendiculars, 180 feet; length on keel for tonnage, 169 ft. 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> in.; breadth for tonnage, 18 ft.; depth of hold, 11 ft.; burden in tons, 291 56-94ths. The *Fantasia* herself is, without exception, the most perfect model of nautical beauty that has yet appeared in the Thames, and is of finer lines than are possessed by the celebrated Dover and Ostend mail-packet *Prince Frederick William*, one of the fastest boats in the world. Her internal accommodations are wonderful for their economy of space, and are most tastefully furnished and decorated by Messrs. Taylor, of the Dover-road. The after cabins for the use of the Grand Duke and Duchess include a splendid saloon, sixteen feet square, with couches on each side, and mirrors at either end, with sleeping cabinets, library, and bath-rooms for their use, and other apartments for the convenience of their suite, the whole of which are tastefully ornamented in white enamel and gold; a handsome staircase leads to a house on the deck, from which a good look-out may be obtained, or as a refuge in bad weather. The fore part of the vessel, before the engine-room, includes the captain and officers' cabins, and good saloon, all fitted with mahogany and maple-wood; forward of these are accommodations for the yacht's crew; at her quarters she carries two beautifully-modelled cutters, each twenty-five feet long, built by the Messrs. Searle, of Stangate, and fitted with Clifford's successful boat-lowering apparatus.

DESTRUCTION OF THE "JAMES BAINES" BY FIRE. WE recorded in our impression for April 24 the burning of this magnificent clipper-ship of the Black Ball line of Australian packets, the property of Messrs. James Baines and Co. She had but recently arrived at Liverpool from India with a large and valuable cargo of East India produce, only a small portion of which had been removed. The fire burst out on Thursday morning, April 22. Although the engines were brought into play as rapidly as possible, there was no visible effect produced, and four or five times the firemen, whilst endeavouring to penetrate the interior of the ship, so as to get at the seat of the fire, were driven back by the density of the smoke. It then became necessary to cut away the spars, rigging, stays, &c., which was done promptly, and after some time it was deemed advisable to scuttle the ship, as the exertions from the deck to extinguish the fire seemed to be unavailing. There was plenty of water in the dock at the time, but at the receding of the tide the vessel grounded, and the



THE AUSTRIAN STEAM-YACHT "FANTASIE."—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

afternoon this happened, the mainmast and the mizenmast falling with fearful crashes upon the quay, and in their descent destroying the roofs of two sheds. At nine o'clock at night the inner shell of the hull for nearly the whole length of the vessel was rapidly burning, the flames rising with fury between the ribs which had connected the outer and the inner hull, the intervening spaces being to the spectator like so many flues; and iron bolts, released by the flames were

dropping one after another into the hold, where, in the fore-part of the ship particularly, the uppermost portion of the cargo was being fast consumed. At first, great alarm was felt for the safety of the neighbouring shipping, several of the steamers of the Cunard fleet being in the same dock; but no material damage was sustained by them, and they, with the others, were as soon as possible removed out of harm's way. The value of the *James Baines*

and cargo is estimated at £170,000. The vessel became a complete wreck—lying, according to one account, "like a huge cinder in the Huskisson Dock"—and very little of the cargo was saved. The *James Baines* was registered at 2275 tons. Her dimensions were—length, 250 feet; beam, 41 feet; and depth of hold, 28 feet.

We are indebted to Mr. William Woods, of Everton Liverpool, for the accompanying Sketch.



BURNING OF THE "JAMES BAINES," IN THE HUSKISSON DOCK, LIVERPOOL.

## LORD GEORGE PAGET,

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF CAVALRY FOR INDIA.  
COLONEL LORD GEORGE AUGUSTUS FREDERICK PAGET, C.B., is a worthy scion of a house that will be for ever illustrious in the military and naval annals of this country. His father, the famous Field Marshal, Marquis of Anglesey, who died in 1854, left behind him a fame second to none of the other heroes who fought and won by the side of Wellington. Lord George is the youngest son of the late Marquis, and his third son by his second wife, Charlotte, daughter of Charles, first Earl Cadogan. He was born the 16th March, 1818, and the spirit of his race led him to adopt early in life the profession of arms. He rose steadily and creditably through much hard work, attaining each successive grade, and becoming Lieutenant-Colonel of his regiment, the 4th Light Dragoons, in 1846, and with that regiment he went to the Crimea: he there shared in all the glories and perils of the war, and subsequently commanded the Light Cavalry Brigade. His chief renown



LORD GEORGE PAGET, INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF CAVALRY IN INDIA.  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.

lies in the active and able part he took in the memorable and terrible battle of Balaclava, an exploit which, however disastrous in its immediate results, remains unparalleled in its daring, and brilliant in its moral effect, as affording an unequivocal proof of what may be expected from British soldiery when inspired and led by such officers as Paget. Lord George was appointed a Brigadier-General in Turkey, and was named a C.B., in 1855. He was made an officer of the Legion of Honour in 1856. He had become a Colonel in 1854, and is now unattached. His Lordship, who was M.P. for the Beaumaris district from 1847 to 1857, married, the 27th Feb., 1854, Agnes Charlotte, third daughter of his distinguished kinsman, the late Lord Arthur Paget, G.C.B.; by which lady (who died, after giving birth to her second child, on the 10th of last March) he has had two sons. Lord George has recently been appointed Inspector-General of Cavalry for India. Of



KROOMEN.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

Lord George's brothers, the eldest is the present Marquis of Anglesey, the two next surviving are high up in the Royal Navy, and the fourth is Lord Alfred Paget, Clerk-Marshal of the Royal Household. Of Lord George's other relations, now living or lately deceased, who have achieved reputation in our military, naval, or diplomatic service, the list is numerous indeed.

## THE FAST OF RAMAZAN.

RAMAZAN, or Ramadhan, is the ninth month in the Arabian calendar, and is kept as a Lent by the Mahomedans, in obedience to the command of the Koran. As the Turkish month is lunar, the Ramazan runs through every season in the course of thirty-three years; and when it occurs in summer the labouring classes suffer severely from exhaustion and thirst. This year it began on the 15th April of the Christian era. During this month every good Moslem is bound to fast from the first appearance of daybreak until sunset. He must abstain from eating, drinking, smoking, smelling perfumes, and all other unnecessary indulgences or pleasures of a worldly nature. He is allowed to bathe himself, but it is on condition that he is not to plunge his head under water, lest some drops should enter his mouth or ears. Some even are so scrupulous that they will not open their mouths to speak, for fear of breathing the air too freely. To make amends for this extreme rigour, Moslems generally feast all night till daybreak, though the more rigid begin the fast again at midnight. Persons who are sick or on a journey, and soldiers in time of war, are not obliged to observe the fast during this month; but then they are required to fast

an equal number of days at a future time. Fasting is also dispensed with in the case of nurses and of women who are ailing. The reason given by the Mahomedan theologians for the month of Ramadhan having been fixed upon for this purpose is that the Prophet received his first revelation in that month. Others assert that it was chosen by Mahomet on account of its being generally spent by the ancient Arabs in revelry and mirth and excessive drinking. The characteristics of this Lent-month of the Mahomedans are thus described:—The day is passed by the rich in sleep or in total idleness. Every Moslem, with the exception of travellers, children, and invalids, is forbidden to taste food or drink, to smoke or take snuff from sunrise to sunset; and very wretched do they look, squatting on their divan, or at the door, without the favourite pipe in their mouths, and having no other occupation than counting their beads. This fast is in general rigidly kept. "I have seen the boatmen (says Mr. Turner) lean on their oars almost fainting; but I never saw—never met with any one who professed to have seen—an instance in which they yielded to the temptation of violating the fast." The moment of sunset is, of course, eagerly looked for; it is announced by the firing of cannon. It might be imagined that the first act of the hungry and thirsty would be to eat and drink; but numbers of Turks may be seen, their pipes ready filled, and the fire to light them in their hands, awaiting the welcome signal, every other gratification being postponed for that of inhaling the fragrant weed. The night is passed in devotional forms and revelry. All the mosques are open, and all the coffee-houses: the latter are crowded with Turks, smoking, drinking coffee, and listening to singers and story-tellers. The minarets are illuminated, and the streets are crowded with the faithful.



THE FAST OF THE RAMAZAN IN CONSTANTINOPLE: PROCESSION TO THE MOSQUE OF TOPKAPI.



## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE fireworks in honour of the Treaty of Paris were unexceptionable, and some ungrateful people are known to regard them as its most brilliant results. But this is petulant impatience. There is no reason to believe but that, some day or another, when all the conflicting interests and claims and extortions shall have been adjusted, and the river shall have been deepened, and a Black Sea mouth selected and cleansed, the Danube will, if no new war break out, be as available for navigation by all nations as it probably would have been made, *via* negotiations, if we had had no Russian war. Meantime, as the Congress is about to reassemble, it has been thought as well to call attention to the condition of the unfortunate Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia, which have not only had all the suffering consequent upon the incursion of an army of so-called enemies and the visit of an army of so-called friends, but have been made singular sport with by the great Powers. The Principalities were asked whether they would like to be united; and Wallachia said "Yes," and Moldavia, under strong intimidation, "No." The sentences were quashed, and the wishes were again asked, and both Principalities pronounced unanimously for union. But Turkey and Austria will not hear of the union; the first having a valid ground of objection—namely, that it will lead to dismemberment of her empire; and the second having a still more valid ground—namely, that a free kingdom close to a despotism would be a violation of every policy of political fire assurance. France and England had approved the union, and now will, it is supposed, have to give way. There is much to be said on the subject, and Mr. Gladstone said much on it, in a fine speech, on Tuesday; but his proposal to address the Queen in favour of a union was lost by a large majority. There is no doubt that to establish a new Greece north of Turkey would be to contravene the proposition on which we went to war, and to please Russia much. It must be satisfactory, however, to those who think we got nothing but fireworks out of the treaty to see that we have certainly got a difficulty, and probably a humiliation.

Onwards goes the Budget under the care of its inventor, and, from all appearances, would seem likely to be as successful as its character will permit. Mr. Disraeli and Sir G. C. Lewis quoted Horace against one another in Monday's debate; the latter—we mean Sir George—charging the Chancellor with being *timidas procellæ*, and the former retorting that his predecessor's criticisms were *nubes et inania*. Habit is catching, and probably Lord Palmerston's recent Latin citation (to the effect that, though certain amusements destroyed life, still they were life—a very free-and-easy notion) set the two Chancellors on classical embellishment. There has not been much quotation in the House lately. Mr. J. G. Phillimore's half pages from Cicero are missed, but perhaps not bewailed; and poor Colonel Sibthorp's fear of the Greeks when they brought gifts has long been forgotten. Mr. Gladstone is richer than most men in classical gems, but he keeps them all to adorn his temple to Homer.

Maynooth was got rid of this time with so much alacrity that one may almost doubt whether most people know that once more has the eternal Spooner assailed the Eternal City. He, however, has made his attack, and not quite unaided, for "seldom alone appear the immortals," and Mr. Newdegate was by his side—but no other voice cheered the onslaught upon Rome. It is presumptuous to speculate as to what thought may have inspired the veteran iconoclast. But could he, in some dream, have been inspired for one instant with faith in the Protestantism of the Cabinet? Did he imagine that some Conservatives—in office—would become unpractical and irrational in terror of some argument derived from their own old out-of-office declarations? Did he so undervalue their patriotism as to imagine that they would not sacrifice any whims of their own to preserve the peace of the country? Alack, he may perfectly understand theology and currency—most men believe that they comprehend those trifles—but he does not understand the world! We have seen him carry his Maynooth motion, amid fanatic cheering, which in small encouragement would have been Kentish fire. This time Mr. Walpole answered him very briefly; and very briefly, too, did the Commons put him to the door, by 210 to 155.

It is stated that Ministers have sent in their bill to King Bomba for the unjust and cruel treatment sustained by our engineers Park and Watt, and have by no means said that they will leave it to his Majesty to fill in the amount, but have distinctly demanded, in legible numerals, the sum of £4000. It is a fair sum to require, and we only hope that no abatement will be made. We are called a nation of shopkeepers: do not let us deserve the title by asking one price and taking another; and, moreover, if the demand be refused, as is far from improbable, we trust that the affair will be immediately placed in the hands of an attorney who may be at present heard of in the Mediterranean, and who (*date veniam*) is empowered to give the defendant an ample discharge.

We adverted last week to another Italian grievance—the organ-grinders. Since we wrote Lord Westmeath has endeavoured to pass a bill upon the subject, but it was rejected, being, indeed, framed in a way that laid it open to some real objections, besides the sham ones which were raised by some of the debaters. They affected to think that the pleasures of the lower class would be interfered with by a restrictive measure—an argument which shows how utterly uninformed were the Lords upon the nature of the relief that is sought. What is desired is a power to prevent these organists from inflicting their noise upon those who do not desire to hear it, to some of whom it is a serious injury to business, while to others it is torture to the nerves. If the poor inhabitants of a court like to keep an Italian to grind to them, it would be hard to deny them the pleasure; but it is equally hard that the student in a quiet street, or the sick person, or the musician at his art, should be assailed by the abominable noise, merely because an idle servant girl likes to expend her halfpence in such noise, or an inconsiderate mother hires it to amuse her spoiled children, without regard to the feelings of others. Nothing arbitrary or irrational is sought, and the common sense of the demand will enforce it ere long. Meanwhile much might be done did the inhabitants of the aggrieved districts join to carry out the law as it now stands. A little counter-organisation might make it so difficult for a hunted enemy to carry on his trade as to discourage it materially.

The bill for enfranchising the wife's sister from the shackles of the existing law came on for the second reading on Wednesday (Lord Derby having been previously waited on by a deputation who besought him to give Government support to the measure), and the result was that the second reading was carried by 171 to 134.

LIEUT. BEDFORD PIM, who so highly distinguished himself in the Chinese waters, where he received six wounds while engaged in the operations against the Chinese, has recently returned to England; and the Board of Admiralty, with a prompt recognition of his services which reflects on it great credit, has raised him to the rank of Commander. This officer had previously achieved considerable renown in the Polar regions.

## THE TOLLBAR NUISANCE.

We have the profoundest admiration of everything English, and are firmly convinced that we are the most progressive, enlightened, liberal, and go-a-head people on the face of the earth. We are truly "insular" in our prejudices and sympathies. Yet, we confess it, we never could admire the abominable obstructions known as tollbars, nor could we ever discern anything liberal or enlightened in the system which supports them.

Tollbars, indeed! We appeal to any Londoner who has ever ventured beyond the City limits in cab, cart, fly, or gig, if they are not a nuisance "most tolerable, and not to be endured." Did you ever, on a fine frosty day in January, when the thermometer was a frightful degree below zero, when the gutters in London streets furnished adventurous boys with impromptu slides, when to breathe was to create minute icicles; did you ever go out of town driving your own neat little vehicle, while your benumbed fingers could scarcely hold the reins, and to use the whip was an impossibility; and, under these afflicting circumstances, did you ever pause perchance at a tollbar, and attempt to extract from your purse or pocket the coin required by its malignant custodian? He who has once undergone so severe a trial will never forget it. Or do you live a hundred yards beyond "a pike," and trot into London, and pay, PAY, every time you pass through the aforesaid pike? Or are you an omnibus-conductor? or do you sometimes take home (after laughing at Robson) your aunt and pretty cousins in a cab—the said aunt and cousins, mind you, living beyond a tollbar? Or are you a fishmonger, and do you serve respectable families out of town? or a butcher? or an omnibus-proprietor? or a brewer? or a costermonger, with a cart and a donkey? The fact is, the enormities of the present tollbar system are felt, at some time or other, by individuals of almost every grade.

We believe the tollbar system, as it applies to all England, to be an injustice, a grievance, and an error; but in our present observations we shall confine ourselves to its evils as existing in the immediate vicinity of the metropolis. Take a four-mile radius from Charing-cross. How many tollbars do we find—*exclusive of all side-gates*, whose name is legion? No less than Sixty! Why, between Kennington-gate and New Cross (including those well-known "pikes") there are Ten tollbars! Ten gates in about three miles! What more effective obstructions could the most fertile genius invent? We ask our readers to consider what trouble, irrecoverable expense, and bitter annoyance—what injury to buyer and seller—what loss of time and money—are caused by these antiquated fiscal exactions?

We proceed to place before our readers some facts in relation to this subject which have not been and cannot be disputed, in the hope that their attention will be attracted, and their support given, to the movement so ably and vigorously commenced by the committee of the Toll Reform Association. But it is necessary we should preface our exposé with a brief history of the movement to which we refer.

The present tollbar commission is the result of the report of a Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed in 1825, "to inquire into the Receipts, Expenditure, and Management of the several Turnpike Trusts within ten miles of London." The commissioners are forty-one or forty-two in number, and their powers are defined by the 7th Geo. IV., cap. 142, passed May 31, 1826. They can remove gates, and abolish and reduce tolls, in all roads north of the Thames. Their sway extends over sixteen districts, comprising a roadway of one hundred and twenty-three miles. How have they discharged the trust placed in their hands?—

	Gates.	Side Bars.	Total.
In 1830 they had	33	38	71
In 1840	37	58	95
In 1850	34	63	97
In 1856	36	81	117!

And of these obstructions it appears that within a four-mile radius from Charing-cross there are eighty-seven! That is, twenty gates, and sixty-seven side bars or check gates.

To do away with this intolerable evil was the laudable object proposed to themselves by the gentlemen who originated the Toll Reform Association. The names of its leading members are a sufficient guarantee that its proceedings will be conducted in a liberal and energetic spirit. The chairman is Mr. Herbert Ingram, the member for Boston, and he is supported by Sir Joseph Paxton, Sir Morton Peto, Matthew Forster, Professor Spooner, and other able and enlightened friends of progress. The leading journals of the day have given in their adhesion to the movement. All that is required to conduct it to a successful issue is the general support of the public. And here, we think, some misapprehension exists. The public, in general, regard the movement as a partial one; that is, as devised simply for the relief of the pockets of the wealthy. They who keep their carriages and saddle-horses are supposed to be the only, or at least the principal, sufferers under existing arrangements. A greater error can scarcely prevail. All passengers by omnibuses, all small tradesmen who keep their neat little chaise-carts, all who occasionally avail themselves of Mr. Fitzroy's reduced cab tariff, are injured by this unjust and oppressive fiscal enormity.

The present system, moreover, fails to do what it professes to do: it does not tax every vehicle, for it is notorious that hundreds turn off from the great highways when in the vicinity of a tollbar, and plodding down back streets by a circuitous route, return into the highway when the gate is passed. The tariff, too, is not the same in all districts. At the gates in Holloway, Islington, Camden-town, and St. Pancras, you pay for a pair of horses 4d.; in Kensington, Fulham, Notting-hill, and Kingsland you pay 6d. On what principle can this tariff be defended? But in the City road district two horses actually pay but 2d.!

It is obvious then, from the illustrations we have adduced, that the tax is unnecessary, expensive, arbitrary, unequal, and unsuccessful. The question now arises, what is to take its place? We fully admit the importance of maintaining our highways in thorough and constant repair. We are only contending that this desirable object may be attained at less cost and without inconvenience or injury to the public. The best substitute, we are disposed to think, would be a general county or parochial rate levied expressly for the maintenance of the roads. Mr. J. E. Bradfield, the energetic and untiring secretary of the Toll Reform Association, has put forth certain suggestions in very clear and forcible language. We proceed to place them before our readers, and trust that these remarks will have the effect of calling their attention to the existence of an intolerable evil, and to the best modes of abolishing it. Mr. Bradfield says:—

Say we have to provide for about £40,000 annual repairs. That sum would more than suffice to keep the roadway in good order.

The propositions now submitted are:—In the first place, remove all the gates to a radius of six miles from Charing-cross. In the second place, let the back districts beyond be arranged into some five or six districts only, instead of sixteen, as at present. Let the back gates be placed within an ascertained and equalised distance of each other, and so that the area of clearance be as near as possible equal; not as at present, where there are some districts of sixteen and some of one mile only.

Then let day tickets be issued at each of these gates, which shall clear the whole of the back gates—say a 6d. day ticket. A large yield will be the result.

Let all these gates be attended by persons in "uniform," or proper road-dress. Let the parties selected for the places be discharged or invalidated soldiers from the Crimea, whose public services and the recommendations of their officers will be a guarantee for civility to the public, and for their fidelity and honesty to the "board."

Let monthly tickets and quarterly tickets be issued by the head office, which suggestion would require such head office in a central spot, and none better than where the radius is taken from. Let these tickets "free" all the horses of the owners. This suggestion, if carried out, will be of great comfort, as well as produce good funds.

Then let the "board," having certified that these gates and tickets have produced a given sum, have authority to draw on the county, or Metropolitan Board, as it may be, for the balance between such sum and the cost of repairs. This cost will not result in drawing more from the rate-payers than a farthing to a farthing and a quarter of a farthing in the pound.

I would suggest power being given to the new "board" to remove all these gates to an increased distance, if they found the amount contributed by the county or highway rate permitted. I would also suggest that power be given, at the end of five or six years from the commencement, for the "board" to call on the county, or metropolitan, or highway rate, for a rate of two farthings in the pound, increasing their area and amount of rating as they increase the area of toll abolition; and that when such rate should enable them to put the gates further back, or entirely remove them, such should be done.

The result of this would be—if not in five years, at least in ten years—the whole of the turnpikes in Middlesex would be got rid of.

## THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

SINCE her most gracious Majesty has made the Isle of Wight her place of summer residence, great additional interest has been given to this healthful and attractive resort. The comfort and expedition of the transit by railway from London to the southern coast also has largely increased the number of persons who annually visit the island for health or recreation. The South-Western Railway Company having sounded its note of preparation for the running of excursion-trains from the metropolis to Southampton and Portsmouth, with facilities for the extension of the trip to the Isle of Wight, we have thought that the following descriptive details, with the accompanying Plan, of this Garden Isle, may prove acceptable to our readers.

The Isle of Wight is situated in the English Channel, at a short distance from the mainland of Hampshire, of which county it has been commonly reckoned a part. The channel which divides it from the grand line of our southern coast varies in width from two to six miles, and bears the appellation of the Solent Sea. The form of the island is irregular, but bears a rude resemblance to that of the heraldic lozenge.

In circumference this delightful island is about seventy-five miles. Its extreme length, from east to west (or from the Foreland to the Needles), is about twenty-three miles; its greatest breadth, from north to south (or from the town of Cowes to St. Catherine's Point), rather exceeds thirteen miles.

The utmost diversity of elevation pervades the surface; a circumstance that, added to its sylvan richness and the beauty of the verdure, greatly tends to produce those attractions that all so greatly admire. Besides which, the two sides of the island present each a peculiar character, as distinct, and as strongly opposed, as their aspects. The northern side is marked by all that is rich, lovely, and picturesque; the southern, commonly called the back of the island, abounds in bold wild rocks, precipitous projections, ravines, fearful chasms, and other features of the imposing, and even of the sublime. In parts, it is true, these opposite characters are greatly mingled—a circumstance that only adds to the effect produced upon the observer, and, together with the constant alternation of marine and land views, contributes still more powerfully to distinguish the Isle of Wight as the "Garden of England."

The climate is well known to be as pure, mild, and salubrious, as the face of the country is beautiful. Its softness and warmth, as compared with that of England in general, are proved by the luxuriant growth, in the open air, of the myrtle, geranium, and other trees and shrubs, which commonly flourish, so exposed, only in more southern latitudes. Evergreens of great size and beauty, over which winters pass without appearing to affect their foliage or vigour, also constitute a prominent feature of the island.

The natural division of the isle into north and south is by a nearly central chain of hills, or downs. These downs stretch from Bembridge to the Needles, or entirely across the island. But the division most commonly referred to is that created by the River Medina, which, rising at the foot of St. Catherine's Down, and falling into the Solent at Cowes, parts the isle into hundreds, of pretty equal size, which are called respectively the East and West Medina. There are two other rivers, each of small size—namely, the Yar, which rises near Freshwater Gate, and falls into the sea at Yarmouth; and the Wootton River, taking name from the village of Wootton, to which, for small vessels, it is navigable. Its chief towns are Newport, Cowes, and Ryde.

## OSBORNE HOUSE.

The island mansion of the Ocean Queen is a noble erection in the Palladian style of architecture, approached from the lawn by an ascent of several magnificent terraces. The Flag Tower is 107 feet in height; the Clock Tower, or Campanile, ninety; the first terrace wall is seventeen feet high, and the second ten. The western wing, or pavilion, with its semicircular projection, contains the Royal apartments. The Flag Tower rises in its rear, communicating with an open corridor which runs the whole length of the north-west face of the building. A carriage entrance, on the other side of the tower, opens upon a beautiful pleasure-ground, stored with the rarest ornamental shrubs. In front of the mansion spreads a noble lawn, sloping down to the very margin of the sea, rich in luxuriant verdure. On each side rises an abrupt rocky knoll, crowned with the densest foliage, which stretches away to the very crest of the hill, and through which meander numerous paths and carriage-roads, commanding the most glorious vistas imaginable.

The building was erected by the late celebrated builder, Mr. Thomas Cubitt, from the designs of his Royal Highness Prince Albert; and is in the Italian style, consisting of "a rusticated basement with two stories above." The angles have moulded quoins, and the whole is surmounted by a bold cornice and a balustrated parapet, very carefully wrought. The Royal apartments are elegantly decorated, and adorned with fine specimens of the great masters. On the grand staircase there is a fresco, by Dyce, of "Neptune surrendering to Britannia the Empire of the Ocean." Gibson, Thorneycroft, Weeks, and Calder Marshall have contributed some exquisite sculptures. The fountains and flower-stands are from the tasteful designs of Gruner.

## HAMBOURGH CASTLE.

This castle is built upon the site of a cottage-villa, called Steephill, the property of the late Earl of Dysart, about a mile from Ventnor. Placed on a lofty terrace, backed by the bold Upperciff, and judiciously screened by noble trees, it possesses the advantages of commanding prospects and the strictest seclusion.

## BLACKGANG CHINE.

Any considerable charm in the cliffs of the island bears the provincial epithet of a "chine." Sir Richard Worsley says:—"The term is applied to the backbone of an animal, both in manège and culinary language, which forms the highest ridge in the body. 'Echine,' in the French, is used in the same sense; and Boyer has the word 'chinfrneau' for a great cut, or slash. Hence the word chine might be thought peculiarly expressive of a high ridge of land cleft abruptly down; and the several parts of the southern coast denominated chines all correspond with this description."

The whole aspect of this chine is grand, but gloomy; it has neither the beauties of Shanklin, nor the comparative prettiness of Luccombe: savage sublimity is its characteristic. Portions of its steep sides are little less than five hundred feet in height; every part is without a feature of vegetation; and the almost universal colour of the faces of the cloven sand-rocks so nearly approaches black that it is supposed to have derived its name from that circumstance, as a prefix to the Saxon *gange*, which signifies any opening or way in a cliff to the seashore. From the summit of the chine there is a noble prospect of the whole line of coast westward, including Chale, Brixton, and Freshwater Bays; the towering cliffs of Freshwater, the Needles Rocks, and the coast of Dorsetshire in the extreme distance.

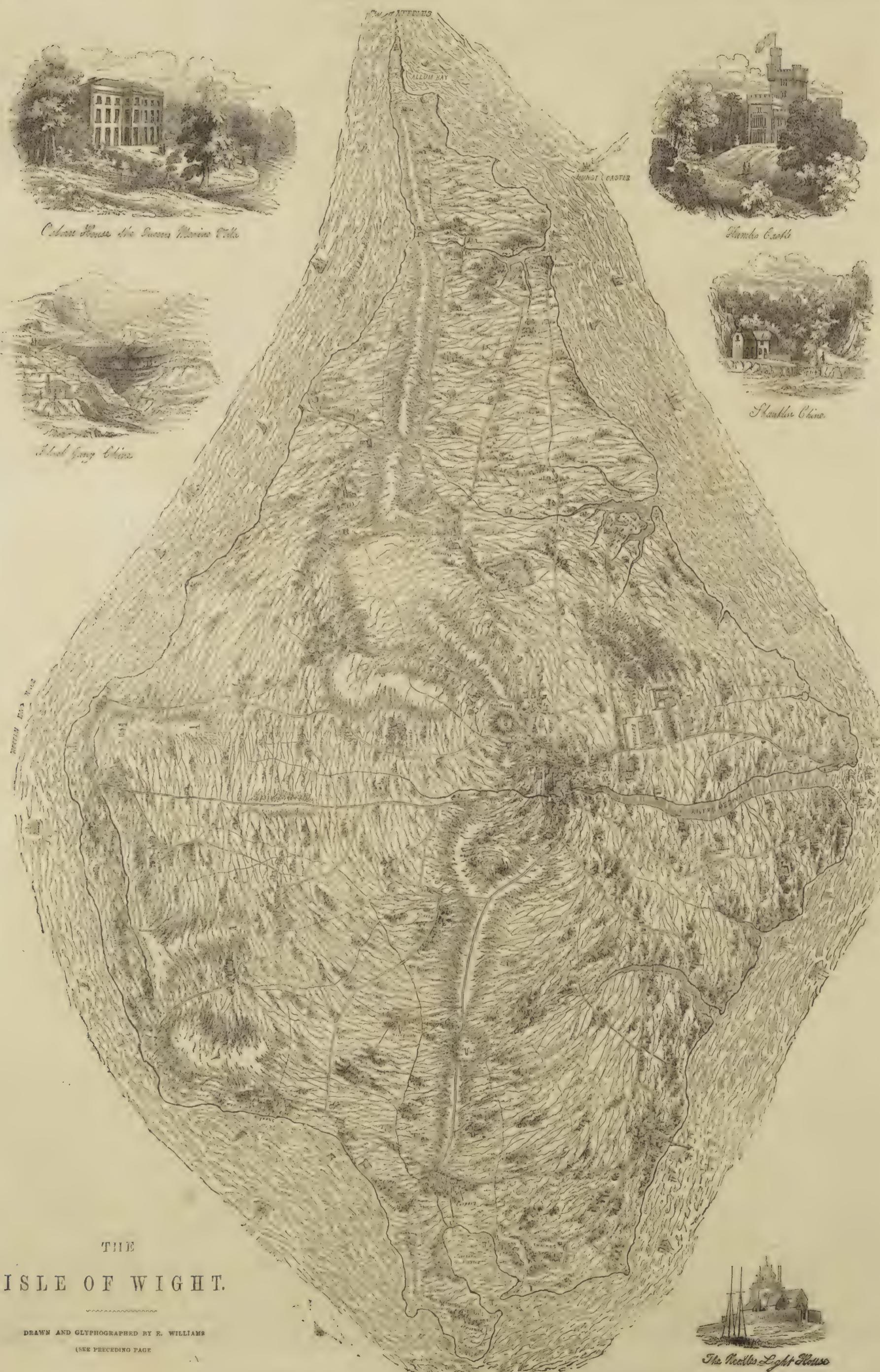
## SHANKLIN CHINE.

Is thus described by the Rev. Leigh Richmond:—"In a wide-sweeping curve of a beautiful bay there is a kind of chasm, or opening, in one of the lofty cliffs which bound it. This produces a very romantic and striking effect. The steep descending sides of this opening in the cliff are covered with trees, bushes, wild flowers, fern, wormwood, and many other herbs, here and there contrasted with bold masses of rock or brown earth. In the higher part of one of these declivities two or three picturesque cottages are fixed, and seem half suspended in the air. From the upper extremity of this great fissure or opening in the cliff a small stream of water enters by a cascade, and flows through the bottom, winding in a varied course of about a quarter of a mile in length, and then runs into the sea, across a smooth expanse of firm, hard sand, at the lower extremity of the chasm. At this point the sides of the woody bank are very lofty, and, to a spectator from the bottom, exhibit a mixture of the grand and beautiful not often exceeded."

## THE NEEDLES LIGHTHOUSE.

The continuation of the High Down is called Needles Down, near whose extremity is placed the well-known Lighthouse. Arriving at the Point, which is the western termination of the Freshwater Cliffs, and of the island, the prospect, in clear weather, will absolutely astonish by its boldness and grandeur. The lighthouse itself merits observation. It has ten argand lamps, and the same number of plated reflectors, the united effulgence from which is extremely brilliant. The violence of the wind here at times can be estimated by none who have not witnessed its effects; the greensward that covers the Point is constantly strown with fragments of the cliff blown upon it; and, for days together, the inmates of the lighthouse are rendered its prisoners, it being perilous to leave the shelter afforded by its walls, the strength of which, it may be imagined, is far from common.

For the above details we are indebted to "Barber's Picturesque Illustrations of the Isle of Wight, and "Bridgeman's Guide to the Isle of Wight."





STATUE OF DR JENNER.—SCULPTURED BY W. C. MARSHALL.—PLACED IN TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.

## DR. JENNER.

ON Friday morning (last week) the statue of Dr. Jenner, the discoverer of vaccination for the prevention of smallpox (ably executed by W. C. Marshall), was placed in Trafalgar-square, next to the statue of Lieutenant-General Sir C. Napier. Edward Jenner, an English physician, was born at Berkeley, Gloucestershire, in 1749, and subsequently settled there as a medical practitioner. About the year 1776 his attention was turned to the cowpox, by the circumstance of his ascertaining that those persons who had been infected with this disease were thereby rendered free from variolous infection. From that time until 1796 he steadily pursued his investigation of this discovery; and, having at length established its general efficacy, amidst all the opposition naturally to be expected in such a case, the practice of vaccination was introduced into the London hospitals, the army and navy, &c., and finally extended to every part of the globe. Honours and rewards were now conferred on Dr. Jenner as a public benefactor; a parliamentary grant of £20,000 was voted him; learned societies at home and abroad enrolled him as a member; and when the allied Potentates visited England in 1814 the Emperor of Russia sought an interview with him, and offered to bestow on him a Russian order of nobility. Dr. Jenner's writings consist merely of "Observations on the Variola Vaccinæ," and a paper in the "Philosophical Transactions" on the "Natural History of the Cuckoo." He died in 1823.

## "GALILEO" BY MUNRO.

THIS Statue of Galileo is the first of five presented by the Queen to the University of Oxford—one of a series of statues of great men of science intended to decorate the new museum now in progress of building. The other four statues given by her Majesty are those of Bacon, Newton, Liebnitz, and Oersted. Mr. Buskin presented one of Hippocrates—the model of which, by Mr. Munro, was in last year's Royal Academy Exhibition. One of Watt is presented by Mr. Boulton, grandson of the partner of Watt in the great Soho firm. Lord Lothian presents one of Sir Humphry Davy, the great chemist; and Mr. Gladstone, Lord Derby, Sir Walter C. Trevelyan, and others interested in Oxford University, have assisted by gifts of money in the decorations of this museum, of the beautiful architecture of which all Oxford men may well be proud.

Galileo Galilei, the illustrious astronomer, mathematician, and philosopher, was the son of a Florentine nobleman, and born at Pisa in 1564. He was intended by his father for the medical profession; but his love for mathematical



STATUE OF GALILEO.—SCULPTURED BY A. MUNRO.

studies was so decidedly evinced, and his aversion for the other so strong, that he was allowed to pursue the former, which he did with such unwearied diligence that at the age of twenty-four he was



MARDI GRAS, AT NEW ORLEANS: NIGHT PROCESSION OF THE "MYSTICK KREWE OF COMUS."—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

appointed Mathematical Professor at Pisa. There he was constantly engaged in asserting the laws of nature against the Aristotelian philosophy, which raised up such a host of enemies against him that in 1592 he was obliged to resign his professorship. He then went to Padua, where he lectured with unparalleled success, and students flocked to hear him from all parts of Europe. After remaining there eighteen years Coimo III. invited him back to Pisa, and soon after called him to Florence with the title of Principal Mathematician and Philosopher to the Grand Duke. Galileo had heard of the invention of the telescope by Jansen; and, making one for himself a series of most important astronomical discoveries followed. He found that the moon, like the earth, has an uneven surface, and he taught his scholars to measure the height of its mountains by their shadow. A particular nebula he resolved into individual stars. But his most remarkable discoveries were Jupiter's satellites, Saturn's ring, the sun's spots, and the starry nature of the milky way. The result of his discoveries was his decided conviction of the truth of the Copernican system; though the blind and furious bigotry of the monks charged him with heresy for it, and he was twice persecuted by the Inquisition, first in 1615 and again in 1633. On both occasions he was compelled to abjure the system of Copernicus; but it is said that, in the last instance, when he had repeated the abjuration, he stamped his foot on the earth, indignantly muttering, "Yet it moves!" The latter years of his life were spent at his own country house near Florence, where he devoted himself to the perfecting of his telescope; and he died, at the age of seventy-eight, in 1642—the year in which Newton was born.

### THE "MYSTICK KREWE OF COMUS" AT NEW ORLEANS.

A VIVID description of New Orleans, from the pen of a highly-valued Correspondent, appeared in this Journal on the 10th ult. A portion of it, as bearing upon, and serving to explain, the accompanying Engraving, we here reproduce:

On the third day after my arrival at New Orleans (says our Correspondent) I was a spectator of the revelries of the "Mystick Krewe of Comus"—an association of citizens whose names are known only to the initiated, who annually celebrate the festival of Mardi Gras by a procession through the city. The procession on this occasion represented Comus leading the revels, followed by Momus, Janus, Pomona, Vertumnus, Flora, Ceres, Pan, Bacchus, Silenus, Diana, and, in fact, the whole Pantheon of the Greek mythology, male and female, all dressed in appropriate costume. The "Krewe" assembled at nine o'clock in Lafayette-square, and, having obtained permission of the Mayor to perambulate the city with torchlights, started in procession through the principal streets to the Gaiety Theatre, where the performers in the masque, to the number of upwards of one hundred, represented four classical tableaux before a crowded audience, and they protracted the festival till midnight. At that hour dancing commenced, and the masquers mingled with the general public, and kept up the revels till daylight.

### NATIONAL SPORTS.

Of Derby rumours there are comparatively few, and since Clydesdale's Newmarket defeat speculation on it has been comparatively spiritless. One rumour, however, was flying about before Chester, to the effect that the Stock Exchange intended to "pot" Physician, and had engaged Alfred Day to ride him. The Salisbury racing was remarkably good, and opened with a dead heat between three. At the next attempt it became a dead heat of two, and then, as neither would divide the £48, the pair ran it out, and Pinsticker proved himself a "sticker" in verity, and just won by half a length. The Flying Dutchman's stock won three times on the second day, Schiedam beating Kelpie very cleverly at three miles; but Mr. Parr had a sweetener by the triumph of the highly-tried Joyeuse. The principal meetings for next week are Bath on Tuesday and Wednesday, and Harpenden Friday. Ancient Britain and Sunbeam are in the Bath Biennial, and the much-vaunted dark Palmleaf and Meg Merrilles will now have to meet at an 8lb. disadvantage to the latter in the Weston Stakes.

Fisherman opened the Chester Meeting by beating Saunterer a head for the Grosvenor Stakes, while the black in his turn only beat Kelpie a head, and seems to have lost that brilliant turn of speed with which he came through his horses on this course last autumn. Mr. Merry was more lucky in the Mostyn Stakes with Meg Merrilles, and in the Palatine with his Oaks and St. Leger filly, Sunbeam, both of them by his favourite Chanticleer. On Wednesday Lord of Lorn won at half a mile, which is his best distance; and Sir C. Monk won the Cup with Vanity, a daughter of old Touchstone, and trained by John Scott. Captain White, the great ex-master of the Cheshire, was second with Jordan, while Physician, who received 17lb. for his year from the winner, was beaten little more than half a length from her for third, thus giving Malton a good measure of him for Lord Derby's horses. M. Dobler, the eccentric Saunterer, The Peer, and Sweet William were next in order; and Adamas, Sunbeam, Melissa, and Princess Royal among the last of the twenty-nine. Fisherman beat Gemma di Vergy for the Queen's Plate, making the fifty-second win out of eighty-four starts, or a total of 47758 which he has won in his four seasons so far. The result of the Cup was to bring "Tox" to 6 to 1, and Longrange to 10 to 1, for the Derby.

Mr. Farquharson's sale is settled for Wednesday, June 9, and will, we believe, quite equal the Tubney one, both in the number of hounds and horses that will be brought to the hammer. Owing to a severe blow from a horse, "The Squire" of Dorsetshire has been laid up for nearly five weeks, and has consequently been unable to see the close of his fifty-second and last season with hounds. Ben Jennings has been his huntsman for thirty and Treadwell for twenty-one years of the time, and Ben Foot officiated in his young days as one of his whips. Masters of hounds and huntsmen have been unfortunate this last season, and one, we regret to say, is at present temporarily on crutches, from his horse bungling at a double post and rails. The Queen's Hounds had very fair sport last season, and hunted fifty-one days. Countries seem to be settling in with new masters, but the promotion among first whips, which was so brisk in 1857, is exceedingly slack. The Yarborough Whip, a very elegant piece of hardware of Callow, Park-lane (and to which the sporting papers have lately made allusion), was won, it seems, last year by Mr. Walker, of Bigby, with a four-year-old bay gelding by Fernhill, dam by MacOrville, beating ten others. This gentleman won the same prize in 1841, with a brown colt by MacAdam, dam by Little John. The nineteen horses of the Worcestershire Hunt are to be sold at Birmingham on Thursday; and hunters are beginning to come up very fast to Tattersall's.

As soon as the Derby (which is a week earlier than usual) is over, we shall be in the thick of the yearling sales, with her Majesty's, Mr. Greville's, and Mr. Blenkiron's, all falling within forty-eight hours of each other. Lord Loderborough's comes on in June, and it is said that a noble turfite offered 500 gs. in vain for Loiterer, by Stockwell, out of Saunterer's dam, when it was a foal. This magnificent chestnut yearling is the very image of his stout-built sire, who is now decidedly the most popular one of the day. Lord Loderborough will find his 3100-guinea cheque to Lord Exeter come back with compound interest; while his success with "The West" is more dubious. Happy Land was bought in at Salisbury for 3000 gs. (1), Northampton for 1000 gs., and Nimrod for 300 gs.; and in fact Lord Ribblesdale only parted with three or four mere rips. Safeguard, the last of the Defence horses left in England, is dead, and one of his stock, Watchdog, threw up his head and went stone blind quite suddenly while running at Salisbury. We heard of a similar accident, under rather different circumstances, last year.

Mr. Rarey has returned from Ireland, and has found Cruiser, after their fortnight's separation, in good form, and as cordial as ever. His London subscriptions number upwards of 700, to say nothing of his country ones. No wonder that his imitators—including the gentleman who can communicate a secret for, we think, thirty postage-stamps, that will lure your horse "to swim a river after you"—gnash their teeth in despair. Some sixteen or seventeen of his pupils have formed themselves into a club for private practice, and we hear of an immense number of other private experimentalists, who seem to be getting their hands well in. The Round House has been quite crammed this week, and the most beautiful triumph of the system was made upon a bay mare, whom Mr. Hemans, her owner, described as "peevish to clean." She did not like her character when the wisp was applied; but, after half an hour's onus, Mr. Rarey handled her, and crept in and out be-

tween her hind legs in a manner which made the spectators almost hold their breath; and all nervousness and irritation seemed wholly gone. On Tuesday a white Arab charger of the late Lord Raglan was introduced, and made a very scientific fight of it before he gave in; and then Mr. Rarey operated on a brown mare so highly nervous that her owner, we are told, laid and lost a bet of ten guineas that she would not bear the drum. A mare who had nearly kicked a carriage to pieces came successfully to hand on Wednesday; and then a grey thoroughbred four-year-old, who has resisted all breaking, and refused to have man, saddle, or roller on his back. This was the most thrilling event of the week, as the horse had been a savage ever since it was three months old, but it gave in so far as to bear a saddle on its back, and to let Mr. Rarey get on, but it still showed a disinclination to move, and the completion of its education was deferred for a day or two, at the request of all the spectators, as Mr. Rarey was evidently very ill and feeble to what he usually is.

### CHESTER SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY.

Grosvenor Stakes.—Fisherman, 1. Saunterer, 2. Mostyn Stakes.—Meg Merrilles, 1. Glenbuck, 2. Chesterfield Stakes.—Orchill, 1. Dunecany, 2. Palatine Stakes.—Sunbeam, 1. Polly Peachum, 2. Sweepstakes of 5 sovs.—Polly Johnson, 1. Wynnstay Handicap.—Pensioner, 1. Wouvermans, 2.

### WEDNESDAY.

Helter Skelter Handicap.—Lord of Lorn, 1. Oltenita, 2. Second Year of the Seventh Triennial Produce Stakes.—East Langton, 1. Star of the East, 2. Tradesmen's Plate.—Vanity, 1. Jordan, 2. City Plate.—Sir Colin, 1. Master Bagot, 2. Scramble Handicap.—The Argosy, 1. Church Langton, 2. Her Majesty's Plate.—Fisherman, 1. Gemma di Vergy, 2.

### THURSDAY.

Dee Stand Cup.—Cotswold, 1. Cawood, 2. Triennial Stakes.—Sir Colin beat Special License. Marquis of Westminster's Plate.—Dunecany, 1. Orchehill, 2. Dee Stakes.—East Langton, 1. Jordan, 2. Weller Cup.—Lough Bawn, 1. Gorsehill, 2. Scurry Handicap.—Thornhill, 1. Peter Flat, 2.

**SHAKSPEARE IN ROME.**—Amongst the many tributes in aid of the sufferers by our Indian disasters it is gratifying to find that our countrymen in Rome have availed themselves of an occasion offered by Mr. W. Colebrooke Stockdale undertaking to read one of Shakspeare's plays on behalf of the above cause. The reading, writes a Correspondent, took place in a large room of the Palazzo Mignarrelli, and, being supported by his Excellency the French Ambassador, the Duchesses of Gramont, St. Albans, Gagarolo, and Rignano, with the Ladies Marian Alford, Howard, Grey, Cremorne, Somers, &c., was fully attended. The reader rendered the various characters of the magnificent play of "Henry the IV." with full dramatic effect, so that the audience, which comprised many foreigners, entered fully into the spirit of the play, and expressed their delight by oft-repeated applause. The proceeds, amounting to 123 scudi, have been transmitted to the authorities in London.

### MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

A LARGE amount of money stock having been absorbed by the public, the market for Home Securities has continued firm throughout the week, and an advance of about three-quarters per cent has taken place in the quotations. The Untunded Debt has, likewise, ruled steady, and the March bills have been done at 40s. premium. In the Indian Loan Scrip and Debentures some rather large sales have been effected, at slightly-enhanced rates.

We are now officially informed of the terms upon which the Chancellor of the Exchequer has concluded an arrangement with the Bank of England for the payment of the Exchequer Bonds failing due this week. The Bank, it appears, has agreed to advance £1,000,000 immediately, at 3½ per cent, to be redeemed in 1862, and to make another advance of the same amount, and upon the same terms, towards the end of the year, in the event of its being required. This arrangement—which enables the Government to pay off the two millions of bonds failing due on Saturday without the necessity of a fresh issue—has found very little favour at the hands of the holders, most of whom had anticipated a renewal of the bonds at 3½ per cent.

The demand for money has certainly improved, yet we can quote scarcely any change in the rates of discount, though, on the whole, they have been firmer than for some time past. Apparently the supply of bills in the market is increasing, as very few bankers are now disposed to take short paper under 2½ to 2½ per cent. Four and six months' paper is worth 3½ to 3½ per cent.

By advices from Australia we learn that over one million sterling in gold is now on passage to England; hence we may anticipate a further increase in the supply in the Bank vaults. There is, however, some demand for shipment to the Continent, about £50,000 having been withdrawn from the Bank, and £80,000 out of the late arrivals has been sold for Paris. The imports since Saturday have been—£151,000 from the West Indies, and £17,340 from the Peninsula.

The report of the Credit Mobilier, though it shows a profit on last year's business, recommends no dividend for the past six months' operations. This recommendation has taken no one by surprise here; indeed, the wonder expressed is that the society should have continued to flourish so well, considering the nature of its operations.

On Monday the Consol Market was steady, and prices were slightly on the advance. The Three per Cents for Money, were done at 97½ to 97¾; the Reduced 96½ to 96¾; the New Three per Cents, 95½ to 95¾; the New Three per Cents, 96½; Long Annuities, 1859, were 1½; India Loan Debentures, 100½; India Bonds, 17½ to 21s. prem; Exchequer Bills, 33s. to 39s. prem. Prices generally were firm on Tuesday. The Reduced touched 96½; Consols, 97½; the New Three per Cents, 96½; Long Annuities, 1858, 1½; India Loan Debentures, 100½; Exchequer Bills, 31s. to 40s. prem; and the Bonds, 1859, 101. Bank Stock was 223 and 22½; and India Stock, 22½. There was considerable firmness in the quotations on the following day, when Consols were done at 97½ for money. The Reduced were 96½; and the New Three per Cents, 95½. A bargain was done in the New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, at 81. Bank Stock sold at 22½; and India Stock, 223 and 22½. India Scrip was 100½. Exchequer Bills went at 35s. to 40s.; and India Bonds, 18s. to 22s. prem. Exchequer Bonds, 1859, marked 101½. On Thursday the market was buoyant, at further enhanced rates. Consols, for Transfer, were done at 97½; and for June 2, 97½ to 98. The New Three per Cents were 96½; India Loan Debentures, 100½; Exchequer Bills, 35s. to 40s. prem. Bank Stock marked 22½ to 23; and India Stock, 22½. The Directors of the Bank of England made no change in the rates of discount.

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Some rather large investments have been made in the Foreign House; prices have, therefore, steadily advanced. The principal rise, however, has been in Venezuela Stocks, which have improved fully 2 per cent. Owing to the defeat of the revolutionists at Arquipa, Austrian Five per Cents have realised 95½; Brazilian Five per Cents, 102½; Brazilian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 103; Buenos Ayres Six per Cents, 82; Buenos Ayres Three per Cents Deferred, 18½; Ecuador New Consolidated, 14½ ex div.; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents for Account, 83; Peruvian Three per Cents, 58½; Granada Two-and-a-Quarter per Cents, New Active, 20½; Portuguese Three per Cents, 1853, 46; Ditto, 1857, 47; Russian Five per Cents, 112½; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 102½; Sardinian Five per Cents, 9½; Spanish Three per Cents, 4½; Spanish Passive, 7; Swedish Four per Cents, 83½; Turkish Six per Cents, 95½; Turkish Four per Cents, 104½; Venezuela Two per Cents Deferred, 18½; Ditto, Four-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 28½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 66½; Dutch Four per Cents, 100; Peruvian Dollar Bonds, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 57½; and Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 90½.

The dealings in Joint-Stock Bank Shares have been rather on the increase, and prices have been firmly supported. Australasia have marked 8½; Bank of Egypt, 21½; Chartered of India, Australia, and China, 7½; English, Scotch, and Australian Chartered, 18½; London Chartered of Australia, 19½; London and County, 28½; London Joint-Stock, 30½; London and Westminster, 45½; Ottoman, 18; Union of Australia, 45½; Ditto, New 31½; and Union of London, 23½.

A fair amount of business has been transacted in Miscellaneous Securities, as follows:—Australian Agricultural, 20½; Canada Company's Bonds, 135; Ditto, Government Six per Cents, 116; New Brunswick Ditto, 16½; New South Wales Debentures, 101½; Nova Scotia Sterling Debentures, 10½; South Australian Government Bonds, 110; Victoria ditto, 110; Crystal Palace Shares, 12; Ditto, 17½; Eastern Steam, 1; Electric Telegraph, 16½; European and American Steam, 4; Netherlands Land Eight per Cent Preference, 2½; London Discount, 4; Peel River Land and Mineral, 2; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 7½; Rhymney Iron, 24½; Royal Mail Steam, 57½ ex div. and Lonus; Van Diemen's Land, 15½; East and West India Docks, 120; London, 10½; St. Katherine, 95; Victoria, 100; Birmingham Canal, 23; Grand Junction, 51½; Oxford, 1853; Regent's 16½; Coventry, 180; Chelsea Waterworks, 10; Ditto Guaranteed, 24½; Grand Junction, 7½; Southwark and Vauxhall, 92; West Middlesex, 105; Hungerford Bridge, 6½; and Vauxhall, 17½.

Owing to a steady improvement in the traffic receipts, the Railway Share Market has shown signs of animation, and prices, almost generally, have been on the advance. The "calls" at present advertised for this month amount to only £261,150. The following are the official closing quotations on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Bristol and Exeter, 91½; Caledonian, 86½; Eastern Counties, 62½; East Kent, 15; Edinburgh and Glas-

gow, 63½; Great Northern, 103½; Ditto, A Stock, 92; Great Western, 56½; Lancaster and Carlisle, New Thirds, 25½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 92½; London and Blackwall, 6½; London and Brighton, 107½; London and North-Western, 95; London and South-Western, 96½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 30½; Midland, 95; Norfolk, 63; North British, 51; North-Eastern, 93½; Oxford, 81½; Leeds, 4½; Ditto, York, 70½; South Devon, 36½; South-Eastern, 70½; South Wales, 83½.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Buckinghamshire, 98; East Lincoln, 129; Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock, 2½; Shrewsbury and Hereford, 8½.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Great Northern Five per Cent, 118; Great Western Five per Cent, redeemable, 100½; Ditto, Birmingham Stock, 74; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Six per Cent, 120; Ditto, Three-and-a-Quarter per Cent, 66; Midland, Four-and-a-Half per Cent Stock, 101; North-Eastern, 93½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, Four-and-a-Half per Cent Debenture Stock, in perpetuity, 100; South-Eastern, Reading Annuities, 24.

BRITISH POSSESSIONS.—Bombay, Baroda, and Central India, 18½; Ceylon, 3½; East Indian, 111; Geelong and Melbourne, 18½ ex div; Grand Trunk of Canada, Second Issue of the Loan at Three per Cent Discount, 37½; Great Western of Canada, 19½; Ditto, New, 11½; Ditto, Five-and-a-Half per Cent Bonds, payable 1877, 100½; Madras, Five per Cent, 21.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 6½; Bahia and San Francisco, 3½; Carneau Mine and Rail, 2½; Dutch-Rhenish, 10½; Great Luxembourg, 8; Paris, Lyons, and Mediterranean, 3½ ex div.; Sambre and Meuse, 8½; West Flanders Five-and-a-Half per Cent Preference, 9½.

In Mining Shares only a moderate business has been passing, yet prices have ruled tolerably firm:—Bon Accord Copper Shares are quoted at 1½; Copiapo, 12½; General, 18½; Mariquita, 7½; Brazilian Imperial, 2; and United Mexican, 3½.

### THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE, May 3.—To-day's market was very scantily supplied with all kinds of home-grown wheat. Selected samples were in fair request and the turn higher than on Monday last; but other qualities moved off slowly, on no firm terms. Holders of foreign wheat were firm in their demands, but the transacted ones were very limited. Floating cargoes of grain commanded very full prices. Owing to a large importation the barley trade was in a strong state at barley last week's currency. Fine malt supported previous rates; but in the quality were very few. Oats were off steadily, at very full prices; and beans were very high.

May 5.—F. nearly all kinds of produce took place in price.

English.—Wheat, Easey and Kent, red, 39s. to 41s.; ditto, white, 41s. to 45s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 38s. to 41s.; rye, 32s. to 34s.; grinding barley, 29s. to 3

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## THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

Let it be stated at the outset—as, after two days' patient scrutiny, we are constrained to do—that the present exhibition falls short by many degrees of most that we have seen in these rooms during the last ten or a dozen years. Not only is it deficient in attractive pictures of the highest class of interest—works which should engross the attention of the town for a season, and are sure to be sought out by every visitor—but the general average of the remainder is decidedly deficient, both in point of material and execution. One fact which must strike every eye upon the most casual glance round the rooms is the predominance of portraiture beyond what has been usual even at this exhibition. Look round the walls, and particularly in the Great Room, where the greatness of art should at least be attempted, you will see on all sides the pale human effigies staring upon you from their flat, dull canvases—affording convincing and significant proof of the tendencies of the art patronage of the age. Now, this is a nuisance which we have not to complain of in other exhibitions of the year, neither in the British Institution, nor the National Institution, nor in the Suffolk-street Gallery, nor in either of the Water-colour Galleries; and, when we meet with it in such form and extent in the Royal Academy, we naturally stop to inquire why it should be so, and what Royal Academicians have done for the public to hide and compensate this large culture of private vanity and personal interest? What, to go no further, has the Royal Academy done for the arts of the country, as exemplified in the present exhibition? An examination of the catalogue shows that, out of 1330 works exhibited, Royal Academicians contribute only ninety-two, of which eighty are in painting, two are architectural designs, and ten in sculpture. Of the eighty productions in painting, no less than thirty-five are portrait subjects (including Ward's two "Royal command" pictures); and of the ten in sculpture, seven are effigies of distinguished individuals. Such the destiny of art—such the patronage of art in England—such the extent to which the Royal Academy participates in the general movement. In pursuing these introductory observations, and partly to account for the falling off in the present display, we find some of the Academicians wholly absent—men who in former years have always produced works which have been anxiously looked to by the public, and have deservedly engrossed a large share of the attention of the critics. We have, for instance, nothing by the president, Sir Charles Eastlake, nor by Macrise, nor Dyce, nor Lee, nor Smirke. In addition to this, the leaders of the new revival school—Millais, Holman Hunt, &c.—whose productions have, from time to time, created such a profound sensation amongst the multitude, and caused the judicious few to rub their eyes and shake their heads with astonishment and misgiving, these are also absent. On the other hand, we find some brave, well-intentioned works by new and rising hands; but, upon the whole, the collection still falls short in point of attraction, and does little to indicate advance in the Academy, or of the arts of the country of which it is the accredited sanctuary.

Pushing our way amongst large crowds, we, in this first notice, propose to afford a running commentary upon the most prominent works in the exhibition, very much in the order they attract our attention, and without any attempt at classification, beginning with the Great Room.

A. Elmore, one of the youngest of the Royal Academicians, disappoints us. We had hoped much from the new blood infused by him into the old institution, and we hope still, though present performance would hardly justify it. His two contributions are—"An Incident from the Life of Dante" (8), and a scene from the "Two Gentlemen of Verona" (120). In the former we have the realisation of a story, told by Boccaccio, of Dante, that, the latter passing one day along the street, one of a group of women assembled at a doorway said to her comrades, "That is the man who descends into the infernal regions and comes away when he likes, and then writes what he has seen." It is obviously a picture without incident—it is merely an impression upon the mind of certain personages in respect to another that is attempted, and the attempt is not successful. Dante is stately and grave, and equipped in accordance with acknowledged authorities; and the young girls at the doorway look curiously at him, and smile at something—we know not what. In the Shakespeare scene Mr. Elmore is much more happy; the subject itself was a better one, and he has treated it in an appreciative manner. The scene is that in which the Duke of Milan says to the false Proteus, who informs him of the intended flight of Valentine and Silvia—

This love of theirs myself have often seen.  
Haply, when they have judged me fast asleep.

And asleep the Duke is, or pretends to be, sitting gaudily attired in an easy-chair, and turning a furtive glance at the loving pair. The colouring of this picture is gay, fresh, and agreeably blended.

E. M. Ward, another young Academician, affords another example amongst so many of the stranding of genius upon the golden reef of patronage. Let us trust i may not be for ever. No one who has appreciated the strong nervous purpose displayed in his earlier works—in his very picture in the present exhibition, of "Alice Lisle Concealing the Fugitives from the Battle of Sedgemoor" (438), being the original design for the fresco in the Houses of Parliament—can hesitate to admit that his heart was not with him, nor the inspiration of his art either, when he painted his two "command" pictures of "The Emperor of the French receiving the Order of the Garter" (35) and the "Visit of Queen Victoria to the Tomb of Napoleon I. in the Hotel des Invalides, Paris" (234). Indeed, these are canvases which we would gladly overlook—pass by unnoticed; but the events they commemorate, and the circumstances of their production, and the curiosity they naturally excite in the throng of idle gazers, render that impossible. It must be admitted that the subjects are such as do not afford much opportunity for the development of artistic genius, and, it must be added, Mr. Ward has not used them as though he loved them. In the installation scene we have a long table with velvet cover; on either side a row of ministers and courtiers in formal array, and at the upper end the Sovereign in act of investing her Imperial guest with the blue ribbon of the Garter. There is no occasion for individual expression in the faces, and none is attempted. The most pleasing figure in the picture is that of the Empress Eugénie, who, sitting at the lower end of the table, looks on with interest and affection at her illustrious husband. In the other picture the group of distinguished personages, though affording more opportunities for arbitrary arrangement, is tame and unimpressive, notwithstanding the introduction of a dignitary of the Church kneeling in devotion before the tomb of the departed conqueror. The figures in both pictures are wooden in character; the finish of the costumes and accessories, in which the chief merit of such subjects would lie, is carelessly performed; and the colour is heavy, lurid, and waxy. Of a very superior order is the artist's other performance, seen in the West Room (438), where the heroic Alice Lisle, surrounded and threatened by the Royalist soldiers in pursuit of their victims, stands out with a grand calmness worthy of the best age of heroism.

Hart, another of the more recently-created R.A.s, adopts the subject of "Athaliah's Dismay at the Coronation of Joash" (70). The picture is decidedly the most important of his numerous illustrations of the Old Testament; and, despite a little glarishness in the colouring, almost unavoidable when the mass and variety of Oriental regal paraphernalia is considered, may be pronounced an effective performance. The usurper, Athaliah, who has caused all the male branches of the Royal family (her grandchildren) to be murdered, with the exception of Joash, who has been saved through the intercession of the High Priest Jehoiada, comes upon the scene just as her youthful kinsman has been crowned and enthroned. Her astonishment is great, but her further machinations vain, and she is already about to be assailed by the infuriate soldiery, who drag her off to put her to death. The composition is ambitious, full of action and bustle—the drawing of some of the figures exceptional.

Another scriptural subject, by Leslie, R.A., hangs in the place of honour at the upper end of the room (152)—"Christ at Capernaum," rebuking his apostles who have been disputing as to precedence, and calling a little child unto him, to "set him in the midst of them." For the sake of historic art we wish we could speak well of this picture, but it is impossible: so wax-dollish and expressionless are the faces, the

draperies so heavy, the colour so crude and hard, and the manipulation in almost every part so slovenly, we scarcely recognise in it the hand which has realised some of our most admirable Shakspearian scenes.

Faud arrests our attention with a charming little conception, deviously carried out, attractively and suggestively entitled "The Sunbeams" (102), of which we give an Engraving. In that little homely interior a young mother, with a beautiful happy face, is playing with her child, who is just on his first legs, supporting it affectionately by a scarf round its waist as it struggles forward apparently to play with its own little shadow on the wall; for bright golden "sunbeams" pour in through the little cottage window upon that happy mother and child, producing an effect as indescribably cheering as pictorially it is novel and ingenious. The reflected light even warms up the good-humoured countenance of old granny, who is plodding over her knitting, and retailing her world-wisdom and her reminiscences of former days. The whole of the treatment of this pleasing picture is satisfactory—warm in tone, replete with detail, without over-elaboration.

Another picture which we engrave is in a different walk of art—"The Bribes" (173), by F. R. Pickersgill, being the diploma work deposited in the Academy on his election as an Academician. The subject is suggested by the following lines from an old Spanish ballad:—

She hath tempted the Alcayde with her jewels and her gold.

And unto her his prisoner that jailer false hath sold.

The idea thus outlined is suggested rather than eliminated by the artist, who, in his sombre severity of character, and his breadth of light and shade, and subtle chiaroscuro, remind one somewhat of Giorgione. The head of the female, with the anxious penetrating gaze of her blue eye as she eagerly hastens to unlock the gate, is remarkably well studied. The colouring throughout is firm and in a good tone; the steel armour of the gaoler, shining in the subdued light of the dungeon, being given with wonderful truth.

And now we come to one of the veritable attractions of the exhibition—a picture by Sir Edwin Landseer in a new line, but executed with all his long-acknowledged cunning. "The Maid and the Magpie" (180) is a story already so hackneyed in nursery rhyme and on the stage that one might have thought it impossible to invest it with any new point of interest. But this Sir Edwin Landseer has done—the whole subject is of his own invention, and of a nature to display his peculiar talent most felicitously. The scene is a shed where a beautiful maiden, picturesquely attired in close-fitting light puce bodice, with a little red cap on her head, is milking a cow—a favourite, no doubt—leaning her head affectionately against its soft, smooth side, whilst it turns its full brown eye round as it were to smile upon her in recognition. Beside is a model calf—such a calf as Landseer only could paint—which has just been weaned, as we learn from the spiked muzzle on its nose; and some goats nibbling turnips, the green tops of which are hanging about their mouths; and in the foreground on the left is the magpie, who with most mischievous air, is about to lay his felonious beak on the coveted spoon. A countryman in a blue smock—the conventional lover—looks in at the wicket-door, and the background is occupied by some village scenery lightly sketched in. Such is a bare enumeration of the materials of this justly-attractive picture, which in treatment is full of amiable and agreeable sentiment. Of the skill and discrimination displayed in the textural realisation of the various objects we need only say that they are in every respect worthy of the high renown of the great painter.

"The Missing Boat (Pas de Calais)" (201), by F. Stone, is somewhat novel in idea, and cleverly worked out. A mixed group of people—men, women, and children—are represented standing on the sea-shore on the day after a storm, peering anxiously into the distance, in hope of catching a glimpse of the missing fishing-boat, or boats. The various expressions between hope and despair—the foreboding of bereavement in one, the utter dejection of another—the still clinging confidence in a happy morrow in a third, are admirably portrayed, and combine to make a picture of engrossing though passive interest.

Frith's "Derby Day" (218) has been talked of with promise all through the year, and anxiously looked forward to by those who know the capabilities of the subject, and the talent of the artist. It amply fulfils our highest expectations, and will at once take rank as one of the most successful character pictures ever produced in this country. To describe it in all its marvellous details, in its innumerable episodes, its photographic glimpses of character, its endless variety of groupings, and its grand massing of all these incidents and characters into a compact unity, would be impossible within our limits—it would occupy a whole week's discourse. We can only take a stray glimpse at portions of it here and there, peering as we do over the shoulders of the crowd which daily gathers before it. The scene appears to be taken from the far side of the race-course, at a point somewhere near the distance-post; and not injudiciously has the site been chosen, this being the neutral ground where the miscellaneous wild vagaries of England's great holiday are carried on in their fullest variety and intensity. Afar off, on the left, is the Grand Stand, covered with a confused sea of heads, presenting such a sight as is to be seen in no other part of the world, and on no other day in the year. Judging from appearances, the great race of the year has already been run for; thousands have changed hands, hundreds have been plunged in ruin, and still the sport wags on, and, by way of mockery, the course is being cleared for one of the smaller events which, according to custom, wind up this eventful day. Tiny jockeys, in bright satins, on magnificent tall horses, are making their way to the starting-place, presenting an idea of a presiding calm and reality amidst the Babel of excitement and wild extravagance which reigns around. Luncheon and small talk is the order of the day in the splendid open carriages which line the course. Savoury raised pies, and the finest and reddest of lobsters, and the greenest of salads, emerge from well packed hampers, with champagne *ad libitum*, and lumps of Wenham Lake ice to cool it. The ladies in the carriages and on the drags, so gaily yet so elegantly attired, and more or less *comme il faut* in every respect, seem all the better for their slight refection; the gentlemen, some of them at least, appear to be slightly affected by the heat of the day, or the over-icing of the champagne—that "fast" young man for instance, who, with cigar in his pallid lips, leans with his back against the carriage, in which the fair unhappy object of his affections is seated, having her fortune told; and that light-headed officer on the top of the drag, who is roaring out an incoherent toast, his lady-companion vainly striving to moderate his stupid hilarity. Around, and mixing in with the carriage folk, are the usual professionals of the race-course—the acrobat, with his pale-faced child, who, bedizened in finery, looks wistfully at the lunch-cloth which John is spreading on the ground; Ethiopians serenaders; vendors of "correct cards," thimbleriggers, card-sharers, and roulet-men, with their touts, attired as the primest of Quakers and the greenest of countrymen, sending away their victims, thoroughly "cleaned out"; who, with hands in empty pockets, think madly of yesterday and of to-morrow, and look vainly for aid and protection from Mr. Policeman, who, good easy official, walks about quite unconcerned, mopping his head with a green handkerchief, or politely requesting you to clear the course. A portion of these ingredients, it will be seen, are out of date at the present day, the thimblerig and the gaming-table having been ruthlessly prohibited by the authorities, and Epsom thus robed of half its pictorial charms; but the artist who paints a work for all time has a right to adopt that period when his subject was in its prime in point of attraction and interest; and, in adopting his materials on the present occasion, Mr. Frith rescues a great historical fact from oblivion just before it was too late. The execution of this marvellous little world of a picture is of the nicest and most masterly kind. Delicately finished in every the minutest detail, gaily coloured in every part, it is yet admirable for its combined effect and keeping as for the success of each particular group and figure. The sunniest sky is over head; the air is warm and dry, and devoid of those mixed, indescribable odours which astonish the Surrey Downs on the occasion of our great cockney saturnalia; and, beyond—modestly reminding us of the ordinary quiet of the spot—are delicious views of the surrounding country.

We now pass to the Middle Room, where several canvases of no ordinary interest arrest the attention. P. F. Poole's "Last Scene in 'King Lear'" (310) is an impressive picture; the aged King hanging over his prostrate daughter, holding a feather before her mouth, and clinging frantically to the hope that she may yet breathe. The grouping of the other figures is skilfully arranged; the story

is sufficiently well realised; and the colour is full-toned and well balanced.

"Flower-Girls—Town and Country" (350), by J. C. Horsley, is a two-part picture—pointing, of course, a contrast and a moral. On the one side are a party of riotous masquerades issuing forth from the ball-room by broad daylight, their faces pale and haggard, and their Covent-garden bouquets faded and crushed; whilst the poor flower-girl who supplied them the night over has fallen asleep on the step of the door. In the other compartment, almost within an hour's time of the enacting of the above, we are carried to a beautiful spot in the country, where, in a cool shady lane, happy children are making up nosegays of fresh flowers. The transition is quite delicious and cheery, like that from death-sickness to health.

It is impossible to pass Hart's fine speaking portrait of "His Highness Toussoun Pacha, son of Said Pacha, and grandson of Mehemet Ali" (358), without admiring it. His little Highness, in his green and white silk attire, looks archly and saucily off to the right, his little hand grasping his little scimitar, the point of which rests on the ground. The expression and aplomb of the figure are admirable; having much of the objective truth for which Velasquez was so famous.

We are at a loss what to say about A. L. Egg's three-part picture without a name (372), except this, that we wish he had never painted it. Will it amuse anybody? instruct anybody? or do anybody any good? Pictorially, is it at all pretty or attractive? Certainly not. Moreover, will everybody understand it without previous explanation? In the central picture, which is of the past, we see an extremely angry, well-dressed gentleman, with an opened note in his hand, bitterly, savagely upbraiding his wife, who lies extended upon the floor, her face buried in her hands; two pretty children, at the other side of the room, look up from the card-houses they are building, and smile, as children will do at many accidents of which they do not comprehend the import. Who is to gather out of all this that a husband has been deceived, bitterly wronged, and that the guilty wife is about to be cast forth from the home she has dishonoured? On either side of this gloomy centre are two other scenes of still deeper gloom, supposed to take place at a later period and contemporaneously. In the one the two orphan girls—for the father is now dead—are praying by the open window of their bed-room, the pale moon shining luridly upon them. In the other the outcast mother, with another child in her arms, is crouching beneath the dark arch of the Adelphi, and looking out upon the cold river, which, mayhap, may shortly receive her in its slimy folds; the same pale moon glaring down upon her as upon her motherless children in the well-furnished bed-room.

H. O'Neil, who has frequently laboured so creditably under disadvantages as to subject, has capital material in "Eastward, ho! August, 1857" (384), which he uses gallantly and well. It is a scene of leave-taking on board an East Indiaman in the river; the decks being filled with soldiers proceeding to the field of operations against the sepoys mutineers. The companion ladder is crowded with anxious, broken-hearted relatives, who, as they hurry down to the boat which is to convey them to the shore, snatch a last kiss, a last grasp of the hand, or, that final farewell already over, resign themselves sullenly to their sorrow and their solitary homes. Very spirited and touching is all this told; and in no one figure, perhaps, more so than in that of the plain-looking woman with the red cross-barred shawl, who, with a stray tear yet lingering on her bleared eyelid, is about to step into the boat, assisted by the stolid old waterman, to whom these scenes are of every-day occurrence. His comrade in the boat, who coolly smokes his pipe as he hangs on to the companion, is a perfect study of supreme callousness and selfish content. The picture is admirably painted in every part. Even the broad, heavy, black side of the ship, abeam which so many profitless sighs are wasted, so many tears vainly shed, is grand for its solidity and unpretending realness; the very grain of the wood and the iron of the bolt-holes and fastenings are indicated; and one almost smells the tar with which they are smeared.

Here we must close our first notice.

## PAINTING FROM NATURE OUT OF DOORS.

BY T. MORTEN.

THE clever little picture by Mr. Morten, which we engrave, is exhibited on a screen in the third room of the Gallery of the National Institution. Who that has painted or sketched from nature under supervision of a committee of local rustics will not recognise the embarrassing points of the situation and the truth of the representation? Natives of all ages crowd around him—some pointing out the more remarkable features of the view; others gazing connoisseur-like at his work; others staring and grinning in utter vacuity; and all the while the artist, supposing him to be an enthusiast, is wrapt up in his work, unmindful of their unwelcome presence. The group which Mr. Morten has conjured up is a very telling one, full of various and amusing character. The sailor-gentleman, in the wideawake hat, and with his pipe in his hand, expatiates upon the capabilities of the scene as if he were Lord of all he beheld. The old lady and the boy below her look critically over the artist's progress; below, in front, is a hapless urchin who has entangled his fingers in the sticking contents of a bottle of mastic varnish, and he blubbers pitifully at the mess he has got himself into; whilst another, of his own size and mischievous propensities, seems intent upon robbing him of his prize. The quiet stolidity of the other three children, who stand like steps and stairs in front, is admirable, and forms a calm relief to the exaggerated grimace of the lout behind them, who laughs and thinks himself vastly clever—he knows not why nor how. The determined attitude and fixity of purpose of the artist are highly commendable; and the combined result is a very spirited picture—one of the best things in a quiet vein of humour that we have lighted on for some time. The colouring is effective, but not overlaboured.

## TEMPTATION. BY W. HEMSLEY.

MR. HEMSLEY, who succeeds in giving so much of life and expression with so little appearance of effort, has produced a smart little picture (which we engrave), entitled "Temptation," which is exhibited in the Suffolk-street Gallery. As usual with him, the personages here are of the rustic world, which he hits off always with such nicely and genuine character. A country lad has been sent on an errand with some game, and a hamper full of other good things, as a present, and meets a young companion by the way, to whom he is disclosing the tempting morsels committed to his charge. He cannot resist the temptation of peering through the lid of the hamper. We do not know whether the artist intends to imply a design of appropriating any portion of the dainty cargo, but the young fellow in the round hat is evidently all eyes and mouth for their disposal if he had a chance. The face of the other lad is full of earnest intent. The picture is capital alike for drawing and colouring, the conscientious and truthful finish of every part—the game, the basket, and the rustic attire being all admirably painted; and an agreeable harmony pervades the landscape in which the little incident takes place.

## SMILING MORN. BY C. BAXTER.

MR. C. BAXTER, so fresh and rosy in his hues, so graceful in fancy and treatment, has two very pretty pictures in the Exhibition of the Society of British Artists, respectively entitled "Smiling Morn" and "Summer." The former we have great pleasure in engraving, and a charming little subject it is. It represents a young girl in the very springtide of life, yet of a mould and form which promise, in maturity, to realise the very beau-ideal of womanhood. The clear, bright, honest eye, the rosy lip, the cheek in which a full tide of life's blood pulsates, speak of health and content. The luxuriant hair is adorned with flowers in careless array, whilst the dress, gay and rich in colour and material, is worn in picturesquely. Thus endowed and thus equipped, "Smiling Morn" sparkles upon us from her place on the wall with a fascination which it is impossible to ignore or resist.

## CARL WERNER'S WATER-COLOUR PICTURES.

MR. CARL WERNER comes before us with a fourth annual exhibition of his works, which are on view at his studio, 49, Pall-mall. We have already spoken in terms of merited praise of this artist's

talent, which, though now displayed in fewer examples than upon some previous occasions, is developed in sufficient variety of subjects. Last year, if we remember, Mr. Werner presented us with a numerous collection of Spanish subjects, the result of a tour in the Peninsula; now his native Germany, whither he has recently been journeying, supplies further materials for his pencil, in addition to those previously derived from Italy and Spain. We were particularly struck with the fine view given of the "Hall of War, Townhall, at Lubeck," introducing a characteristic historical incident—that of the Burgomaster Wullenweber, once head of the powerful Hanseatic League, dictating an answer to a despatch delivered by a Swedish trumpeter, who is waiting at the table. The Lumber Chamber in the same Townhall—strewed with old books and parchments and overrun with mice—is also a truly graphic representation of an archaeological sanctuary. The wine-cellars of Lubeck, which seem to be thriving, are done ample justice to. Amongst the other subjects in the room let us commend "The Itemains of an Old Church on the Coast of Sicily, with the Lipari Isles in the Distance;" "The Choir of Santa Maria Novella at Florence during the Performance of Religious Service" which, with the monks in their stalls, is very picturesque in effect; and "A Patrician Girl of Montenegro."

## CHURCH'S PICTURE OF THE GREAT FALL, NIAGARA.

It was fitting that the monster torrent of the North American continent—the ninth wonder of the world—should be painted by native American talent, and this has been accomplished by Mr. Church, of New York, in a manner which casts into the shade all previous attempts of the kind. The picture is now on view at the German Gallery, New Bond-street; and all who go to see it will confess that a more remarkable effort of landscape realisation has seldom been produced. The whole expanse of the Horseshoe Fall is immediately before us in the front; the heavy torrents of water whirling, and curling, and breaking into spray as they dash over the ledge in innumerable cataracts. Backward, the eye travels along the level of the upper stream, where the rapids, which mark the approach to the fall, are distinctly and ominously visible; and far in the distance are glimpses of the Chippawa shore. The artist's mastery is chiefly and pre-eminently displayed in the wonderful truth given to the huge mass of water seen rushing impetuously towards us; the translucency and well-discriminated colour of which are such as to border on illusion. The damp mist rising up perpetually from the foaming torrent is lighted up with a rainbow, which is represented with almost magical effect. This fine and interesting picture is about to be produced in cromo-lithography by Messrs. Day and Son.

## THE LITERARY FUND.

THE committee of the Literary Fund published a few days ago a "Summary of Facts" in defence of themselves, which has called forth an immediate rejoinder from the reformers infinitely more damaging and conclusive than any statement yet issued on the subject. In the "Answer to the Committee's 'Summary of Facts,'" by C. W. Dilke, Charles Dickens, and John Forster, the most careless reader may at once understand the real "facts" of the case; the idlest thinker cannot fail to come to a correct judgment. The reformers have throughout steadily kept in view the one important point at issue, from which the committee have as steadily endeavoured to divert them. Here, say the reformers, is a society which does nothing but relieve on an average forty persons a year, by simply handing to each a cheque; and the cost of this simple matter is more than £500 per annum, or nearly one half of the whole sum distributed to all the distressed "learning and genius" in Great Britain. For the committee keep a costly house, constantly furnished, lighted, and warmed to draw these cheques in, though they meet there only nine times in a year, and they pay a costly secretary to simply help the registrars, whose duty it is to hand over the forty cheques to the forty unfortunate recipients. Now, say the reformers, do more, or consume less. Expend if you like, but don't waste. Relieve men of learning and genius; give out your relief with a hand as liberal as you please, but let not this enormous proportion continue to fall through the bottom of the measure into the hands of those who are not men of "learning and genius," or not in distress. The original idea of the founder—an object indicated by the very charter of the society—is a "hall or college" of Literature—a centre, among other purposes, where literary men could meet and receive information or advice—in short, a place useful to literature or to learning and genius in some way. Carry out this idea, say the reformers, or save your money. Make your house useful, or give it up; employ your secretary, or honestly apply the whole or part of his large salary to the objects of the charity—to the objects which the liberal benefactors of the fund, both dead and living, must have believed, when they gave their money, that it would be for ever applied. To this the committee reply—No; we will not do any more than we do; and we will not give up our house, or our secretary, or our furniture, or our coals or our candles, or anything that is not ours. And they meet every year, and by a majority, consisting almost entirely of the officers of the society whose conduct is in question, vote themselves clear of all blame, pronounce the enormous expenditure "quite satisfactory," and the demand for reform vexatious and absurd.

The committee, however, have not failed to urge a plea for obstructing the reformers in an object which might appear to some persons, or at first sight, not altogether unreasonable. It was a fallacy, according to the obstructors, to suppose that their business was merely cheque-drawing. They not only drew forty cheques a year—they inquired into cases. We were asked to believe that men of learning or genius wanting and deserving relief were, as a rule, so obscure, or so little known to a committee wholly composed of literary men and patrons of literature, that they required much searching out, and their claims a laborious verification. These things, with the addition of "care and delicacy in administration" and other items equally impalpable, were then made one lump, and more than five hundred pounds' worth thereof was, we were solemnly assured by the committee, every year regularly consumed. Well, the reformers again and again replied by showing the falsity of this excuse—the impossibility of its being true; and the obstructors, though unvanquished, have, after years, at length retreated. All costly difficulty of "inquiry," all expensive "delicacy" and "care," are given up. That (say the committee now) is not what they spend their money in; the "expenditure is incurred in the creation, and not in the distribution, of the fund."

Mark these facts. The whole sum which the committee, according to their last published accounts, distributed during the year to "learning and genius" is a little over £1200 per annum. To meet this they have a certain income, independent of all subscriptions—namely, £203 per annum, rent of an estate, and £891 10s. 8d., dividends of stock payable at the Bank. These sums the trustees and the committee's own bankers receive for them without charge; there cannot, therefore, possibly be any expense in collecting so far. To this we may add £100 yearly from her Majesty; and finally, the annual subscriptions of the officers themselves, and the members of the committee, who cannot certainly plead that they require every year five hundred pounds' worth of "dunning," or in fact any dunning at all, to induce them to hand over their subscriptions—and they amount to exactly £112 5s. Here, then, we have already "created," without the slightest trouble or expense to the committee, £1306 15s. 8d., or £81 more than they distributed in charity last year—not to speak of a legacy they received during that year of £463 13s. 1d.

Thus we find that, without any dunning, stimulating, or artificial "creation" whatever—in fact, before they begin their appeal to the public—the committee find themselves in possession of a fund amply sufficient to do all the charity which they dispense. Here is the plain truth. Every year the committee expose the sorrows of poor "learning and genius," issue touching reports, and make affecting speeches, and pretend to be "creating" a fund; while every farthing that they "create" is consumed by the creators themselves, and distressed "learning and genius" is actually the worse for all their labours and all their hubbub by £30 16s. 1d. in one year.

THE inauguration of the new exhibition of pictures and sculpture at the Royal Academy was celebrated on Saturday last by the usual anniversary festival; Sir Charles Eastlake, the president of the institution, occupying the chair.

## CHESS.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

I. M. Temple.—THE BIRMINGHAM MEETING OF THE CHESS ASSOCIATION.—The suggestion that this assembly should be postponed until the break up of the Courts of Law and the London session has been already made to the local committee from more than one quarter, and we hope will be acted upon.

B. Gadsden—ROCHESTER AND CHATHAM CHESS CLUB.—This club meets every Wednesday and Friday evening, at 6.30, in the Mechanics' Institute, Chatham. President, Captain Kaine, R.N.

FELIX A. AMERICAN BLINDFOLD CHESS PLAY.—Mr. Paulsen's last achievement was the play in eight games simultaneously, without any chessboard or men, against eight strong opponents, and winning them all! Mr. Morphy has also been testing his powers of multi-fold mental vision, having lately contested six games without sight of the chessboard, and vanquished all his opponents in the course of five hours!

A. KNIGHT.—Apply to the secretary of the meeting W. K. Wills, E. Q., Birmingham.

F. K. McARLETT, Lethbridge.—Very acceptable. By all means send some further specimens.

A. YOUNG AMATEUR.—Received.

EIDOLON.—The book of the American Chess Congress is expected to be out some time in June. Besides the best of the games played, and a full account of the proceedings, it is to contain twenty of the tourney problems and a number of original strategems by American composers.

C. H. S., New York.—Replied to by letter.

F. HEALEY, E. B. COOK, G. M., and J. B., of Bridport, are cordially thanked for their obliging communications.

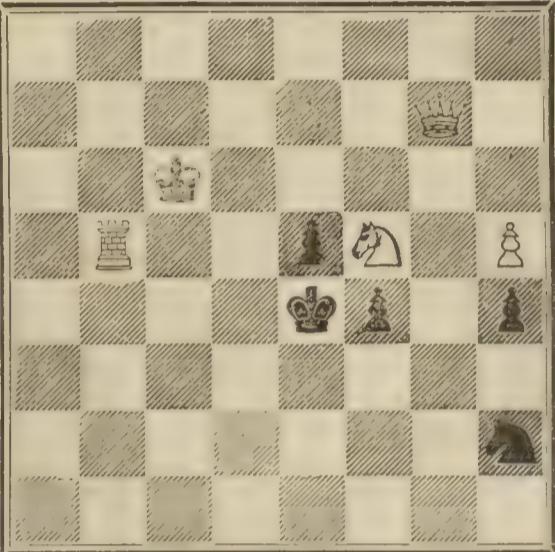
B. T. M.—The C. N. (National) Games at the St. George's Club have been resumed, and two games played, but neither possessed a particle of interest. 2. We gave the terms of subscription only last week. 3. Now resident at Toronto, Canada.

ALPHONSE MORGAN, DEREVON, and others.—Want of space has obliged us to omit the customary list of those who have succeeded in solving our problems; but we intend to resume it, if possible, next week.

## PROBLEM NO. 742.

By E. B. COOK, of Hoboken.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

## SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 741.

WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.

1. R to Q 4th | B takes it (best) | 3. B or Kt mates. BLACK.

2. R to K 6th | Anything.

## CHESS IN CANADA.

The following game, played between the chief amateurs of London (in Canada) and Hamilton (ditto), by correspondence, has just terminated in favour of the former place. For the observations appended we have to thank one of the ablest combatants on the winning side:—

(Evans' Gambit.)

WHITE (London, in Canada). BLACK (Hamilton, ditto). WHITE (London, in Canada). BLACK (Hamilton, ditto).  
 1. P to K 4th | P to K 4th | 19. B takes P (o) | K R to Q sq  
 2. Kt to K B 3rd | Q Kt to Q B 3rd | 20. B to Q B 7th | B takes B  
 3. B to Q B 4th | B to Q B 4th | 21. Kt takes B | Q R to Q B sq  
 4. P to Q Kt 4th (a) | Kt takes P (b) | 22. Q R to Q B 3rd | Q to Q 3rd (p)  
 5. P to Q B 3rd | Kt to Q B 3rd | 23. Kt to Q Kt 5th | P takes Kt (r)  
 6. Castles | P to Q 3rd | 24. R takes R | R takes R  
 7. P to Q 4th | P takes P | 25. Q takes Kt (s) | R to Q sq  
 8. P takes P | B to Q Kt 3rd (c) | 26. Q takes it P (ch) | K to B sq  
 9. B to Q R 3rd (d) | Q to K B 3rd (e) | 27. R to K sq (f) | Q to K R 3rd  
 10. Kt to Q B 3rd (f) | Kt to K 2nd | 28. Q to K 4th | Q to Q 3rd  
 11. P to K 5th | Q to K Kt 3d (g) | 29. Q to K R 4th | P to K B 4th (u)  
 12. P takes P (h) | P takes P | 30. B takes B P | Q to K B 3rd  
 13. Kt to Q Kt 5th (i) | Castles (k) | 31. Q to R 8th (ch) (v) | K to B 2nd  
 14. P to Q 5th | Kt to Q R 4th (l) | 32. Q to R 5th (ch) | K to B sq (w)  
 15. B to Q 3rd | B to K B 4th | 33. B to K 6th (x) | Black resigns.  
 16. Kt to K R 4th | Q to K B 3rd |  
 17. Kt takes B | Kt takes Kt |  
 18. Q to K B 3rd (m) | P to Q K 3rd |

(a) This brilliant sacrifice constitutes the Evans' Gambit.

(b) B takes P is generally preferred, but this move was evidently made to tempt White to take the Kt.

(c) It is to this that the defense is regular.

(d) White has now the choice of several moves—viz., Q Kt to B 3rd; Q B to K 2nd; P to K B 3rd; and Q to Q 5th, but the move in the text is considered the strongest by Mr. Staunton.

The combatants are now left to their own resources; this move is weak, for it exposes the Q to any number of checks which a royal army ought not to be subjected to. Q Kt to R 6th, and B to K Kt 5th, are preferable.

(e) Hazard us, and we doubt whether the best move at this juncture. Had Black captured the Q, the game would probably have proceeded thus:—

10. Kt takes P | Kt takes P | 12. Q to K B 3rd | Kt to K R 3rd  
 11. Kt takes Kt (best) | Q takes Kt | 13. Q R to Q sq

with a powerful attack. If 10. B takes P, White plays 11. Kt to Q 5th, winning a piece.

(f) P takes K is better, as the subsequent moves will show.

(g) One of our best players preferred B to Q B sq, followed by Kt to K R 4th, with the view of winning the Q. Such a combination might prove successful over the board, but we doubt its success in a game by correspondence.

(h) The commencement of Black's difficulties.

(i) Why not P to Q 4th? Possibly Black was afraid of being prevented from Castling.

(j) This unfortunate cavalier presents anything but a bold front, being compelled to occupy an unwholesome quarter for the rest of the game.

(k) From the present aspect of affairs, it would appear that White has not made the most of the attack. Probably the Q P should have been captured at an earlier period of the game.

(l) A good counter move.

(m) To a casual observer it might appear that taking with the Kt is stronger, but the following variation will show it to be unsound:—

19. Kt takes Q P | Kt takes Kt | 21. B takes Kt | K R to Q sq

20. Q takes Q | P takes Q | And the centre Pawns must fall

(n) At once losing the game. Had Black moved instead Kt to Q 3rd, White would have had a small advantage.

(o) This—the winning move—will repay the closest examination.

(p) Any other play would lose the exchange, at least.

(q) The Black Monarch totters on his throne.

(r) By far the strongest method of carrying on the attack. The check of the Q is useless.

(s) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

(t) White could here have won the Knight by the check of Q; but the move adopted is the shortest road to victory.

(u) P to K R 3d would prolong a hopeless game for a few moves.

(v) The coup-juste— mating in two moves, or winning the Q for B.

(w) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

(x) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

(y) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

(z) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

(aa) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

(bb) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

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(dd) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

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(ff) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

(gg) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

(hh) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

(ii) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

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(kk) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

(ll) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

(mm) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

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(tt) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

(uu) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

(vv) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

(ww) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

(xx) The only way to avert the immediate loss of the game.

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"TEMPTATION."—PAINTED BY W. HEMSLEY.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.  
(SEE PAGE 470.)



"SMILING MORN."—PAINTED BY C. BAXTER.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.  
(SEE PAGE 470.)



"THE BRIBE."—PAINTED BY F. R. PICKERSGILL, R.A.—FROM THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.—(SEE PAGE 470.)

## TRANSATLANTIC SKETCHES.

## SOUTH CAROLINA.

CHARLESTON, March, 1858.

THERE is a class of very small critics in this country—chiefly to be found in New York and Philadelphia—who are continually on the look out for the errors, great or small, that may be made by English travellers in their descriptions of American scenery, manners, or institutions. There is another class of persons who seem to make it their pleasure to mystify, bamboozle, and hoax strangers, and who palm off upon them, with grave faces, lies of every magnitude, great, middling, and petty, mischievous or harmless. There is another class, composed to some extent of persons belonging to the snarlers and *mavais farceurs*, already mentioned, but including many honest and estimable people, who think that no person from the Old World can understand the New, and that America is, and must be, a mystery to all but Americans. My letters to the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS have, more or less, excited the attention of all these persons. The first—in spying out and commenting upon small mistakes, in which the obvious errors of the printer are set down to the writer—have attempted to prove that the leaven of one unimportant misstatement has leavened the whole lump. The second have tried their best and worst, but have been guarded against, and, to use their own jargon, they have not “sold the Britisher.” For the benefit of the third and of the first class of objectors, and to show to them what a difficult animal to catch is a fact, and what a slippery tail it has, even when you think you have got safe hold of it, let me tell a little story relative to Boston. It may convince some of them that the most conscientious and painstaking of travellers may involuntarily fall into mistakes, and that in some instances, at least, these mistakes may be traced to the incapacity or carelessness of those who answer questions, and not to the incapacity or carelessness of those who put them. Being in the office of a gentleman who had resided thirty years in the city of Boston, he informed me that in the street next to his own Benjamin Franklin was born.

“Does the house exist?”

“No; it was pulled down some years ago, and a large store or pile of buildings has been erected on the site.”

“Is there no inscription to state that here was born Benjamin Franklin?”

“None whatever.”

“I am surprised at that. The birthplace of a man of whom Boston and all America is so justly proud—one of the great fathers of American liberty—of a man who, next to Washington, is the American best known throughout the world, ought to have been designated by some inscription or memorial.”

“Well, I agree with you that there ought to have been something of the kind; but there is not.”

Ten minutes afterwards I passed through the street of Franklin’s birthplace; looked from the opposite side of the way to the large building erected on the site of the humble cottage where the great man first saw the light; and there, on the top of the building, in large letters, “that those who run may read,” was the inscription which the old inhabitant ignored, or was unaware of, stating the fact that on that place was born Benjamin Franklin. A traveller might well have been excused for taking the not very important fact, or no fact, on such respectable authority as that from whom I received it; but yet the traveller would have been wrong, and might have been judged at for his inaccuracy by all the angry curs of half a dozen little Pedingtons.

But this has nothing to do with Charleston in South Carolina, except as far as it may serve to bespeak the charitable indulgence both of those who do, and of those who do not, know how difficult it is to catch fast hold of a fact, large or small, and what amount of the errors of a traveller may be fairly attributed to those with whom the traveller may be brought into contact, and who lead him astray without intending to do so.

Charleston, the greatest city of South Carolina, but not its capital, is pleasantly situated between the Rivers Ashley and Cooper, at their junction with the sea. These names were given to the two streams by an early English Governor of South Carolina, who sought in this manner to perpetuate his own patronymics in the New World; but there is a disposition at present to revert to the original Indian appellations, and to call the Cooper the Ettiwau, and the Ashley the Chicora. The population of Charleston is variously estimated from 50,000 to 60,000, of whom at least 20,000 are slaves. The city, founded in 1670, was laid out on a plan sent from England, and does not present the monotonous rectangularity of streets which characterises American cities of a later growth. The original constitution of South Carolina was framed by no less a person than the philosopher John Locke; and the principal church of Charleston, that of St. Michael, is affirmed by the citizens and by tradition to have been built from the designs of an architect no less renowned than Sir Christopher Wren. King-street and Queen-street were named after Charles II. and his consort, names which have been retained by the Charlestonians in spite of attempts made to change them during periods of war with England; so that Charleston has reminiscences of the “old country” and is proud of them. The society of South Carolina and of Charleston is polished and aristocratic, and the principal citizens love to have their descent from Englishmen or from old Huguenot families, driven to America by the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. Charleston covers a large space of ground. To look at it from the top of the tower of St. Michael’s, or to steam into it, either from the ocean, or from the arms of the sea, which percolate through the Sea Islands extending along the coast of Savannah, the traveller might imagine it to contain a population of at least a quarter of a million. The great attraction of Charleston is the battery, at the extreme point of land where the Ashley and the Cooper (or the Ettiwau and the Chicora) mingle their waters. Upon the battery, laid out in walks and drives, are situated some of the finest mansions of the city; and here, in all seasons, the inhabitants congregate in the afternoon and evening to walk or ride, and inhale the fresh breeze of the Atlantic. It is their Hyde Park, their “Prater,” and their Champs Elysées, and they are justly proud of it.

South Carolina is called the “Palmetto State,” from the abundance of palmettos that flourish in the Sea Islands along the coast—the Sea Islands that produce the fine cotton in much request in England, and of which I shall have occasion to speak more particularly in the description of the voyage between Charleston and Savannah. In East Bay-street, nearly opposite the office of the *Charleston Courier*, stands, carefully guarded by a fence, a magnificent palmetto in full luxuriance of growth, and in the gardens of the citizens the same tree flourishes in almost tropical beauty. The piers of the wharves at Charleston are made of palmetto-wood—for the worm that consumes all other available timber spares the palmetto. The wharves of Charleston, though not so busy and bustling as the Levée of New Orleans, present an animated spectacle, and the port is filled with vessels, principally from

Liverpool and Greenock, taking away cotton in huge and multitudinous bales for the mills of Manchester and Glasgow; and bringing in exchange for the white freight which they carry home the black freight of the English and Scottish collieries. Coal for cotton or rice is the ultimate barter into which the commerce of Charleston often resolves itself, to the mutual advantage of all concerned.

Charleston had at one time a bad name for its inhospitable treatment of coloured seamen who came from Great Britain, France, or the free States of America, into the port. It was the rule, rigidly enforced, that such seamen, whether British subjects or not, should, as soon as the vessel arrived in the harbour, be conveyed ashore and locked up in prison until such time as the captain should notify to the authorities that he was ready to depart, when his men were restored to him under strong escort, and safely deposited on board, without having been permitted to exchange a word with any inhabitant of Charleston, black or white. This law led, as a natural consequence, to frequent misunderstandings, and often to reclamations, on the part of the British authorities. The rigour of the rule has lately been somewhat relaxed, chiefly, if not entirely, through the exertions of Mr. Bunch, the present British Consul for North and South Carolina; and the coloured seaman, instead of being treated as a felon, is allowed to remain on board of his ship in the harbour, provided he or his captain can procure bail as security that he will not attempt to go on shore. If a free coloured seaman presume, in defiance of this law, to walk in the streets of Charleston, his bail is forfeited, and he is marched off to prison as a felon. It will be seen, although the system is a slight improvement on that which previously existed, that the people of Charleston are still too much alarmed at the idea of the consequences which might result from the admixture, even for a short period, of free negroes among their slaves, and, from the interchange of ideas between them, to do justice either to themselves, to their port, to free black men, or to the maritime nations of Europe with whom they trade. But slavery is a sore subject in South Carolina and in Charleston, though not, perhaps, more so than it is in Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Georgia. Every night at nine o’clock the bells of St. Michael’s ring as a signal to the negroes to return to their homes. A quarter of an hour is given them to wend their way to the abodes of their masters; and any negro, male or female, young or old, who is found in the streets after that hour, without a written permit or warrant from his owner, is liable to be led off to prison and locked up until the morning.

And while upon the subject of slavery, and without going into it so fully in all its aspects, moral, social, and political, as I may do hereafter when opportunity serves, I may be permitted to mention the universal anxiety which prevails at the south that strangers, and especially Englishmen, should see the social operation of slavery at the plantations and elsewhere, and judge for themselves as to the condition of the negroes. The slaveowners, who are for the most part, and as far as my observation has extended, very urbane, polished, gentlemanly, and estimable persons, imagine, from the exaggerations which have been circulated respecting negro slavery, that Englishmen who have never been in America are predisposed to look upon them as monsters of ferocity and oppression; as tyrants who maim and scourge, harass and persecute, the black race; and as positive ogres of lust and cruelty. When they prove, as they may easily do, that they treat their slaves with great kindness, and that, as a rule, slaves are better clad, fed, and cared for than the agricultural labourers of Europe or the slop tailors and sempstresses of London and Liverpool, they imagine that they cover the whole ground of objection to slavery. The writers in the slave interest love to draw a contrast between the “hireling” of Europe and the “slave” of America, in which they give all the advantage to the latter. They dilate upon the certainty of subsistence in return for his labour which the slave enjoys, and upon the uncertainty that attends upon the life and the struggles of the free man, or, as they contemptuously call him, the “hireling.” They assert that the free man is only of value while he can work; that if he is sick and unable to labour he must starve, unless for public or private charity; but that the slave is subject to no such hazards, that his subsistence is secured from the cradle to the grave, and that he is happier than the free man, from the absence of all care for the morrow, and of all the responsibility of him who has to strive for his own bread. They seem to be incapable of arguing the question upon higher ground than that of the mere animal well-being of the human cattle whom they buy and sell, and breed for profit. They seem to be satisfied if they can convince the stranger from a far country that they treat their poor dependants and immortal chattels with common humanity, and that there is nothing further to be said. A few of them go still further, and justify slavery, not only by expediency and necessity, but by social and economic considerations, by philosophy and ethnology, and even by religion. They support it by the Old Testament and by the New, by the Pentateuch and by the Book of Revelations, by Moses and by St. John the Evangelist. Some of them go so far as to assert that it is impious to attempt to abolish slavery, inasmuch as at the end of the world—at the opening of the sixth seal (Revelations, chap. vi, v. 15)—there will be slavery in the world, and that “every bondman and every free man” will at that day hide themselves in the dens and rocks of the mountains from the wrath of the Lord. They support it by their attachment to the doctrines of Christianity, and allege as a fact that slavery would be a good thing in itself, if for no other reason than that it made the benighted African conversant with the great truths of the Gospel, which he could not otherwise have known, and that it raised him from the condition of Paganism in his own land to that of Christianity in another. At Charleston a book was put into my hand setting forth in glowing language the happy condition of the slave in America and the unhappy condition of the free working man in England, France, and Germany. One of the chief arguments of the author was employed to demolish the logic of a writer in the *Westminster Review* who had cited among other objections to slavery that it demoralised the slaveowner far more than it did the slave; and that slavery was to be condemned for the very same reasons that induced the British Legislature to pass a law against cruelty to animals—cruelty which was not only objectionable as worthy of punishment because it inflicted wrong upon the inferior creation, but because it brutalised and degraded the human beings who were guilty of it. “Very true,” said the pro-slavery writer in a tone of triumph, “very true; but did the British Legislature, in its zeal in this cause, ever go so far as to decree the manumission of horses?” And, as if this argument were a triumphant answer to all objections, he leaves the *Westminster* reviewer, crushed under the weight of his tremendous logic, and declines further parley with him.

The slaveowners, as a body, are not cruel, and many of them treat their slaves with paternal and patriarchal kindness; but they are blinded by education and habits, as well as supposed self-interest, to the real evils of a system the horrors of which they do their best to alleviate. In my next letter, without entering into any arguments *pro or con*, I shall describe my visit to a very large rice plantation near this city, where upwards of two hundred slaves are employed, and where the system is in full operation.

## NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

We resume our notice of this interesting exhibition, commencing—where we left off—with the figure subjects.

E. Morin is truly French in character, and, with all respect for the amount of talent he displays, we are not at all sure that his example will have any beneficial effect upon the water-colourists of this country with whom he is associated. “Les Poissons Rouges—Marly en 1760” (6)—is a theatrical scene of a bygone age of gallantry, extravagant in the humour and “make up” of the scene, and withal tricksly set forth. There is nothing in it to instruct or gratify the taste of our age. “Feeling the Pulse—Real Illness” (55), and “Feeling the Pulse—Imaginary Illness” (60), are equally farfetched in the sentiment, and the latter meretricious in treatment. To begin with the latter, it represents a lackadaisical young lady in a splendid saloon, lounging in a not very elegant *abandon* upon a sofa, whilst the courtly, diplomatic doctor feels her pulse, and puzzles his head how to humour her in her imaginary illness. In the other picture we see the good old family doctor on horseback, buttoned up in his great-coat, and riding home across country, on a bleak winter’s night, when a poor homeless woman attracts his attention to a child in her arms, whose pulse he feels, only to discover that the tide of life is nearly out. This picture is the better of the two; and, in its simple impressiveness, almost redeems much of the disagreeable character of its companion.

Another Gallic contributor to this exhibition is Bouvier, who paints his little fanciful female subjects with great care and delicacy, but with a Chinese-like finish. “Dressing the Bride, Douarnenez, Lower Brittany” (163), presents a clever characteristic group of local life, whose quaint dresses and high caps are picturesque enough.

J. H. Mole, whose large picture of “Good News” we have already remarked upon, has several other smaller subjects which display to advantage his charming, elaborate handling, and soft, genial colour. “Safe off the Rocks” (165), representing a rough, good-humoured fisherman returning homeward from his boat, and leading a happy little child by the hand across the rocky shore, is a pleasing subject, most prettily treated. In “Leading the Way” (292) we have another homely family party returning from the field. A healthy youth leads the way, with a sheaf of wheat under his arm. Behind is a woman guiding a child across the rude bridge which spans a rocky stream. The faces are very pleasing; the landscape is of verdant freshness, in a cool shade, and exhibits much genuine taste and feeling in the execution. We give an Engraving of this charming picture.

W. Lee evinces a nice notion of pictorial effect in several pleasing figure subjects. He has a pretty idea in his “Example” (22), where we find a child being taught her devotions by her mother. All we complain of in him is a slight tendency to affectation, which perhaps he unconsciously indulges in, and might therefore, with a little study, avail.

E. H. Corbould, whose careful drawing and well-toned colouring place him firmly in a high position amongst the water-colourists of the day, exhibits immense pains and archaeological study in his “Noah—a Miracle-play performed in the Streets of Hull in the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries” (218). In the midst is a quaint old ship, upon a wooden stage, travelling upon wheels, with the sails set, and a strange ornamental “mawnd” at the top of the mast. The whole of the patriarch’s family are here assembled, enacting the miracle-play, whilst a goodly assemblage of the townsfolk look on. In connection with this curious reminiscence of the art-customs of a by-gone age, the artist prints a list of the items of expenditure of this particular pageant, copied from a MS. book of the time:—so much for “the makynge of Noye shipe,” so much for “straw and greece for the whels,” so much for the “regyng,” so much for “Noe wagis,” and so much for the wages of his “wyffe” and “chylde.”

The landscape subjects comprise many of very high merit, and many more of considerable promise. “The Home of the Seafowl—the Bass Rock” (18), by J. W. Whymper, realises very fairly the effect of an early summer’s morning at sea, the mists rising thick round the solitary rocky mound. “Sunset at Swansea Bay” (31), by T. Lindsay, presents a curious effect, that of an extensive flat coast, with a stream of return water cutting its way through the sands, the Mumbles Lighthouse crowning the distance. James G. Philip displays a brilliant pencil in “Whitesand Bay, Land’s End, Cornwall” (72). It is a highly-coloured picture, a little too laboured, perhaps, in some of the details; but probably strictly correct. The “faint lazy waves,” rolling in foaming curls upon the “ridgy sand,” are so true that we almost hear their dull splash upon the shore. The general effect of atmosphere is somewhat too blue for our fancy; and the sea in the extreme distance appears to us too dark. With all these questionable features, however, it is an admirable painting.

“Langley Castle, Northumberland” (81), by Wm. Bennett, is fine mountain prospect, with an old square, ruined keep, surrounded on all sides by venerable foliage. It is painted with a bold brush—a little too careless of detail in the foreground, where the sheep are not done justice to. Of a somewhat similar character, but more sombre in effect, is “Thirlwall Castle, Northumberland” (200), by the same artist.

“The Bay of Naples” (114), by T. L. Rowbotham, is an extensive panorama, of extreme beauty in itself, seen under a bright Italian sky. The water is pellucid, and smooth as a mirror; various small craft, and in the distance a steam-boat, dotting its surface, and giving life to the scene. Close at hand C. Vacher has another view from very near the same locality—viz., “From the Punta di Tragara, Capri, Gulf of Naples, showing Monte Salaro, the Castello, the Town of Capri, and the Certosa” (117). It is a romantic spot, marked with ruins of the past, seen under the warm glow of a morning sun.

H. Maplestone produces a truly English landscape, “View from Munstead Heath” (129), the line of sight passing over the tops of stunted trees—a nice genial glow pervading the atmosphere. Fahey’s landscapes are always conscientious and good. We admire, amongst others, “The Sty Head Pass, Wastdale” (11); “Buckbarrow and Great Gable, Wastdale” (44); and “The Summer Bed of a Mountain Stream at the Foot of the Sty Head Pass” (231), all in Cumberland.

E. E. Warren’s “In the Forest of Dean” (207) is more than a mere landscape. It is a wonderful study of trees and leaflage—a shady nook in the old forest, with a gnarled oak in the centre—thick verdant foliage towering over head, broken here and there in fitful chasms, through which the sun’s rays penetrate, illuminating patches of the tangled wood. The ground is covered with a thick bed of dried leaves, the accumulation of ages, the quality of which is even more surprisingly represented than that of the living foliage on the trees. When we come to scrutinise the mass, the detail is so admirable that we may almost count the individual leaves; and through them, beneath the surface, the air and light seem to play; and all is so crisp and springy that it would crunch and yield beneath the tread. This has deservedly been singled out as one of the crack pieces of the exhibition, and with it, according freely our meed of admiration, we conclude our remarks upon the collection.

## FINE ARTS.

SCENE FROM “A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM.” Painted by Sir E. LANDSEER, R.A. Engraved by SAMUEL COUSINS, R.A. H. Graves and Co.

The completion of an engraving by Cousins, after a picture by Landseer, the choicest efforts of both artists being bestowed upon their respective tasks, and the subject being one of the most fascinating and picturesque creations of England’s immortal bard, involves a concentration of the art-genius of the country which calls for especial and honourable record. The production in question is one of which painter and engraver may well be satisfied to rest their laurels on; whilst the lovers of Shakespeare must hail it as one of the most graceful and poetic realisations of the conceptions of their favourite bard which has ever been produced. The scene—that of Titania and Bottom with the ass’s head in the cool faery grot, surrounded by imps, and fays, and sprites—is, (Continued on page 476.)

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(Continued from p. 474.)  
after all, one which is better adapted for presentation through the medium of the painter's than the actor's art. No stage heroine, however endowed by nature or improved by study, can hope to represent the doating but deluded Titania with the soft languor yet the imperial elegance and perfect purity which Sir Edwin Landseer has accomplished for her. No stage clown, with all the aids of the property-man, could come up with any show of even physical likelihood to that strange conceit of the poet which invests Bottom the weaver with an ass's head, and makes him an object of love to one so beautiful and queen-like. On the stage the transformation always excites a roar of laughter, and always at the expense of the charmed Titania. In the picture, though the huge ungainly figure of the happy monster provokes our mirth, Titania, who leans in adoration on his shoulder, is subject to no suggestion of ridicule: she is an object of marvel, of sympathy; and the poet's intention in this strange fancy is thus completely fulfilled. For the rest, the hobgoblinry of the scene is worked out with a lavish fancy and a cunning of device, and a propriety of design and mastery of execution, denoting the fullest resources and the highest refinement of art. Mustard-seed, uncoth in shape, stands roguishly staring at Bottom, who is probably making acquaintance with him in the address, "Give me your neif, Monsieur Mustard-seed; pray, leave your courtesy, good Monsieur;" extending brawny hand capable of crushing the imp like a fly. Pease-blossom and Cobweb bestride faery rabbits, whose coats are of the softest and whitest down; Moth comes flying in on gossamer wings; and Puck peeps, archly laughing, over his poor love sick mistress's shoulder. The light is generally that of the pale, mischief-making moon, with the fitful rays of the glowworm glancing here and there. Such is a bare enumeration of some of the materials of this remarkable picture, which will be the nucleus of a Shakespeare Gallery about to be formed by Mr.



"THE SUNBEAMS."—PAINTED BY T. FAED.—FROM THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION—(SEE PAGE 470.)

Brunel, the engineer. To say that Mr. Cousins has faithfully and truthfully translated every line and feature of the original is not too much. Whether in the sheen of Titania's fair skin and her soft drapery, or in the rougher make and equipment of Bottom; in the endless variety of objects—animal, vegetable, and mythical—all is justly discriminated and felicitously rendered, exhibiting consummate skill and taste in a combined application of line and mezzotinto engraving. A work like this justly entitles the engraver to the academical rank which he has recently attained.

VIEWS OF THE ALHAMBRA. Photographed from Herr Carl Werner's Water-colour Drawings made on the spot. C. E. Clifford.

Carl Werner recently explored the grand old Moorish palace with the true eye of an artist, and produced a series of views in water colours of almost every nook and corner, with all the varied surrounding scenery, which were justly admired when exhibited last year at his rooms. He has now resorted to photography as a means of repeating those charming and instructive works, at least so far as their outline and general effect of light and shade are concerned, and most successfully and artistically has the intention been carried out. The subjects are twenty in number—all strikingly varied. First are two general external views; then the Gate of Justice, remarkable for the Christian emblem of the Virgin inserted in the crown of the Moorish arch. The Court of the Alberga, and that of Lions, the entrance to the Hall of the Two Sisters, and the Garden of the Generalife, are remarkable for the exquisite finish realised in the delicate tracery. The Torre das Infantis, with the fine landscape view from the open window, gives one better than could be done by whole pages of description an idea of the grandeur and luxury of the ancient Moslem rulers of Granada. But the portfolio is one over which one might linger for hours, engrossed with recollections of an age of barbaric splendour which has long since passed away, and left its place unfilled.